

Rev A B Brown

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THE AFRICAN REPOSITORY, AND COLONIAL JOURNAL.

Vol. XXI.

DECEMBER, 1845.

No. 12.

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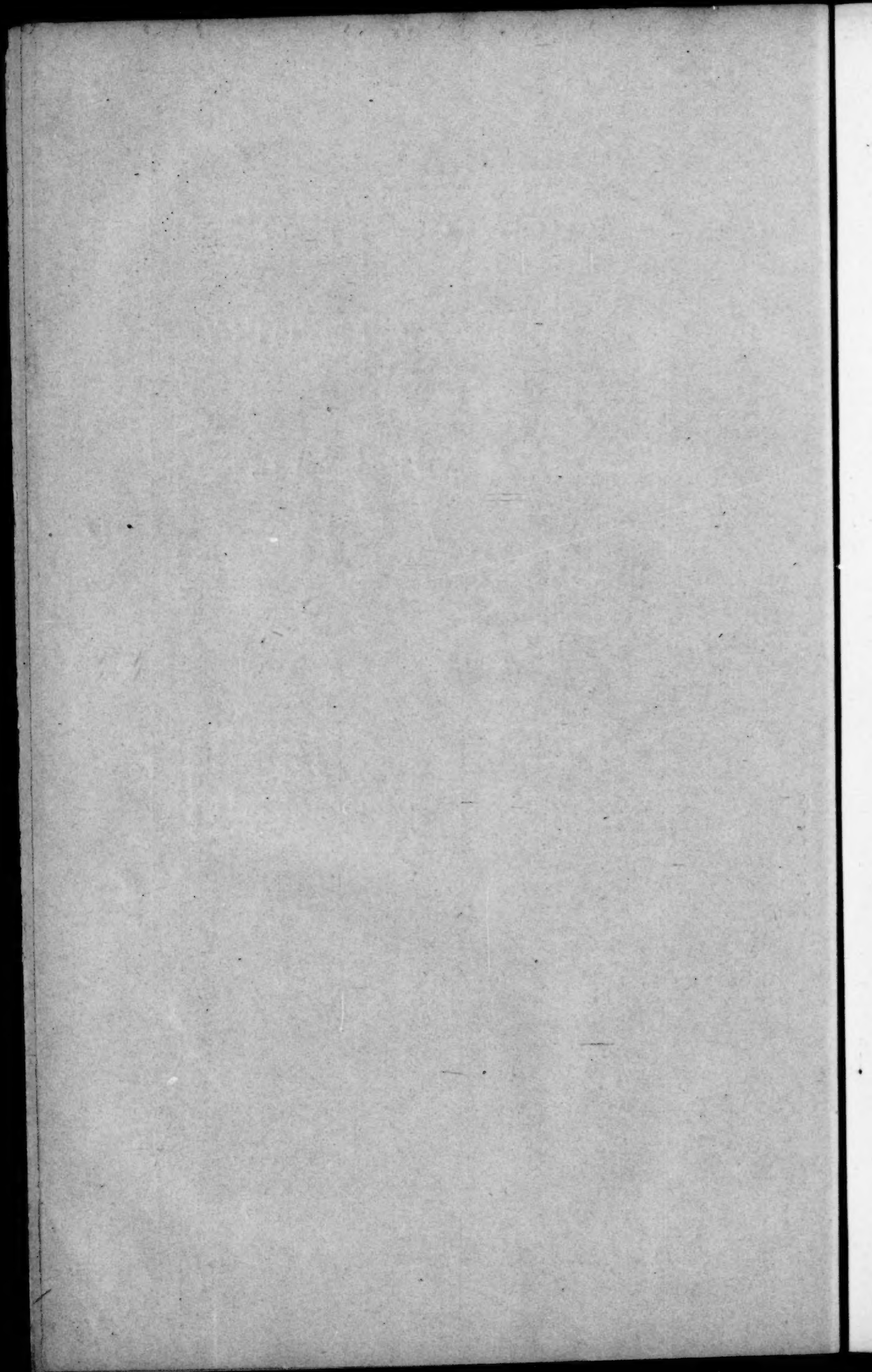
Published Monthly by the American Colonization Society.

WASHINGTON:

C. ALEXANDER, PRINTER,

SEVENTEENTH STREET.

POSTAGE—One and a half cents for any distance over thirty miles.
Free to all subscribers within thirty miles.



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WASHINGTON, DECEMBER, 1845.

[No. 12.]

[For the African Repository.]

Dr. Hodgkin's Letters on the Independence of Liberia.

9, LOWER BROOK STREET,
London, 16—9—1845.

To the Secretary of the Am. Col. Society :

RESPECTED FRIEND:—As one of the earliest friends of the American Colonization Society in this country—as an admirer of the activity and benevolence of its founders—as a contributor to its funds, and as its advocate and apologist in this country, where, through mistaken opinions instilled by its adversaries on your side of the Atlantic, it has by some been ungenerously and unfairly opposed, I trust I may be allowed to offer a few observations respecting a recent occurrence which has caused me considerable pain—I mean the affair of the seizure of the colonial schooner, *John Seys*. This untoward circumstance must not be contemplated as an isolated fact, but must be considered in connexion with occurrences antecedent and subsequent to it.

It cannot fail to be a cause of great regret when serious misunderstandings and evils have long been threatening, that the equally obvious means of preventing them have been neglected. Yet such, I am sorry to say, has been most remarkably the

case in regard to the unhappy affair to which I am now alluding. I have myself observed with much anxiety the singular and anomalous position in which the youthful Republic of Liberia has been allowed to remain; and although it seemed scarcely possible that the peculiarity of its position and the danger to which it was exposed, could have escaped the perception and attention of many much more intimately connected with the affairs of Liberia than myself, I could not refrain from again and again pointing it out, and not merely suggesting the mode in which the danger might be removed, but offering my humble, yet—as I believe it might have been—my effectual assistance in carrying it out. Having correspondence not only among the members of the Colonization Society in America but also in Liberia, I have written to both, to urge the importance of taking early steps to obtain from the British Government the recognition of Liberia as a *State*. I offered a home to the Liberian delegate to this country, and undertook to introduce him to parties likely to promote the object of his mission. I am not aware that any notice has

been taken of my suggestion, or that any measures, emanating from themselves, have been contemplated either in the Liberian government, or at the Managers' Board. When some unpleasant circumstances took place in consequence of the anomalous position of the Republic, though far less serious than the event which has just happened, I did not hesitate to communicate with your late excellent minister, Ed. Everett, respecting them. The fact that he did not feel himself at liberty to take any official notice of them, but could merely make them the subject of a passing private conversation, only confirms the opinion which I had formed, and the importance of the step which I had suggested. I am now most solicitous that the citizens of Liberia, with their allies in Africa and my fellow members of the Colonization Society, and their friends in America, should take an expanded and comprehensive view of the particular position of Liberia, and of the tendencies and consequences of the omission which I deplore, rather than by a limited view and the exposition of isolated facts, excite and exasperate those feelings of animosity which, whilst they are painful in themselves, may lead to very serious results in their immediate and distant effects. I feel so fully persuaded of the good sense of the Governor of Liberia as well as of the members of the Colonization Society, and so convinced of the keen perception of what is due to national privilege which exists amongst your citizens in general, that I cannot doubt the conclusion to which a sufficiently extended view of the subject must lead both in Africa and in America, viz: that entire neglect on the part of the Liberians to take any step to obtain the recognition of their existence on the part of a nation, which, like England, has possessions in the vicinity, as

well as numerous vessels on the coast, has brought upon themselves the untoward circumstance which has been complained of. In the five and twenty years in which I have been interested in Liberia, I have not known a single instance of a Liberian visiting this country, with the exception of H. Teague, who some years since spent a few days at Liverpool, where he was ill nearly the whole of the time. I have myself received very interesting communications from the late excellent Governor Buchanan, and others from Judge Benedict; and it is not improbable that some other correspondence has taken place between Liberians and British subjects. The evidence of mutual friendship and regard have been furnished both by Liberian citizens and British naval officers. In the infancy of the settlement, some of the latter jeopardized and sacrificed their lives in defending the colony against the then superior strength of its savage neighbors. Many years have, notwithstanding, been allowed to elapse without the colony taking a single official step to make even its existence known to the heads of the British Government, although it must have been notorious in Liberia, that the regulations and restrictions which she was establishing as a nation, interfered with the practice of British traders, as it had been in existence from time immemorial. The circumstances in which such a state of things places a British officer, who may be cruising on the coast of Africa, are very peculiar. If the captain of a British merchant vessel, a recognized British subject, complain of the annoyance and loss to which he has been subjected, the officer must expose himself to the censure of his countrymen and his superiors, if he fail to afford that protection to the British flag which it is his offi-

cial duty to render, provided that he cannot show that the complaining parties were themselves in the wrong. This he has hitherto been unable to do, as the necessary consequence of the laches of the Liberians themselves, for here the maxim of the lawyers is peculiarly applicable:—

De non apparentibus et de non existentibus eadem est lex. But it seems that, notwithstanding this omission on the part of Liberia, indirect and unofficial information respecting it has reached the British Government, by which its sympathies and interest have been excited towards the colony. This may in part have been the result of Ed. Everett's private communication. But independently of this, I know that Liberia has had influential friends in this country, and I cannot but regard the official communication of Capt. Jones as an evidence of the efficiency of that influence, and whatever may be the interpretation put upon it, I would unhesitatingly appeal to any impartial reader, whether it is not dictated in the spirit of forbearance and kindness as well as of justice, whilst I cannot refrain from saying that—even to myself, a friend of peace, and the strenuous advocate as well as an admirer of Liberia—there is something peculiarly offensive in the language in which the Liberians have thought fit to indulge, instead of profiting by the gentle hint to correct their long-standing omission.

Had I yielded to impulse, I should have written a request, that my name might be erased from your list of members, that I might not be recognized as the associate of those who foment feelings of hostility to my country; but I preferred an opposite course, and in the hope that time and reflection would enable not the Liberians only, but also some of their friends in America, to perceive their mistake, I have taken steps to bring

the subject under the favorable attention of the Foreign Office, where I have no doubt that all reasonable consideration will be given to it.

I am, thy respectful friend and fellow member of the Colonization Society,

THOMAS HODGKIN.

To WM. McLAIN,

Sec. of the Am. Col. Soc'y,
Washington, U. S.

9, LOWER BROOK STREET,
London, 29—9—1845.

ESTEEMED FRIEND:—In my letter of the 16th instant, which I lost the opportunity of sending by the last packet, I confined myself to one subject, my object being to prevent the growing feeling of hostility towards England, which is springing up in Liberia, in consequence of a palpable omission on her part. When that omission is supplied, she will doubtless have the full and undisturbed right to impose customs, and other dues, at her own discretion. I wrote my former letter in the united character of an Englishman, and of a warm and sincere friend of Liberia. What I am now about to offer, is dictated solely in the latter character, though I think it is sustained by cosmopolite principles.

Though I have urged the measure which may enable the Republic to raise a revenue from vessels visiting her ports, I feel that she will stand in the way of her own interest by doing so. In common with my friends of the Colonization Society, I have looked forward to the great and prosperous extension of the Republic. This will probably be effected more by the annexation of native tribes, than by the influx of American emigrants, even should the resources of the Colonization Society be more in proportion to its merits than they are at present. Principle

and experience unite to teach the lesson that, the annexation of the native tribes, their allegiance to the Government, and their obedience to its laws, will be impeded by any restrictions which interfere with their past freedom of trade. The example of New Zealand, in which the success of British colonization in a fine field has been greatly marred, is one of the strongest illustrations which can be adduced in support of the view which I am taking. Captain Fitzroy found it necessary to repeal the customs in order to pacify the natives; and a colonist informs me that the extension of mutually profitable business was prompt and highly gratifying. Other mistakes have complicated that affair, but the principle for which I plead was fully borne out. The extension of Liberian rule along the coast, will be one of the most effectual means of suppressing the slave trade, and the suppression of wealthy slave factories will produce a temporary check to general trade on the neighboring parts of the coast where lawful traders had facilities for selling their goods in exchange for the dollars paid by the slavers. Consequently, whilst it is a matter of justice and policy to let the natives who are abandoning the slave trade, carry on any legitimate commerce which they can substitute for it, the more important ports of the Republic will reap the benefit of throwing off the same restrictions from themselves, seeing that the foreign trader would prefer running into them and finding every accommodation in conjunction with free trade, to the uncertain chances of leaving goods deposited with native traders whose facilities are temporarily diminished. Liberia will thus become, what it ought to be, the mart of African productions in exchange for the manufactured goods of the civilized world; and although the Republic

has not the advantage of a mighty stream, navigable from the interior of the continent, yet whilst such streams are nearly closed by their pestilential deltas, like the Niger, or by foreign regulation, like the Senegal and the Gaboon, which are held by the French, the new roads of the Republic need scarcely fear their competition, as they must become the favorite channels for land carriage. An almost unlimited influx of goods and capital may take place, and the prosperous trade of a free port, and the increasing wealth of the adjoining territory, would abundantly compensate for the sacrifice of the customs. On the other hand, this prosperity must advance but slowly, or be wholly obstructed, if the measures taken by the colony are such as to throw her ports out of favor with the trading vessels, the captains of which will unscrupulously encourage a contraband traffic, even when the Republic is recognized, and her right to exact duties fully acknowledged.

I am, thy respectful friend,

THOMAS HODGKIN.

P. S. I should like these letters to appear in the Repository, for the sake of the colony as well as in justice to England, which has not been fairly dealt with.

LONDON, Oct. 3, 1845.

DEAR SIR:—Our excellent and benevolent friend, Dr. Hodgkin, has read to me the enclosed letter to you. I fully concur with him in the importance of having Liberia acknowledged as an *independent nation* by the respectable nations of the world—the United States, Great Britain, France, &c. Liberia is now in the anomalous situation of being neither a recognized colony of the American Government, neither is it a free and independent and recognized State. It is only the colony of a society of

benevolent individuals in the United States, and until it be recognized as an independent nation or as an American Colony, the difficulties and collisions with British, French, and other naval commanders may be expected, however much to be lamented and deplored. I hope most sincerely that Liberia will be declared a free and independent State, and I have no doubt that we can procure its acknowledgment by the governments of France and England, provided our American Government set the example. I have already spoken on this subject to the Duke de Broglie, last March when in Paris, and he appeared very favorably disposed, and has a warm and friendly feeling in favor of this germ of what, I trust, will become a great and respectable nation. Dr. Hodgkin most liberally and benevolently offered to lodge the envoy of Liberia should one be sent to London, and he and I will do every thing in our power to promote his views in coming here. He might be the envoy near the French government, as well as the envoy to the English government, and thus di-

minish the expense of sending such an indispensable messenger to Europe. After the colored man (I hope none other will be sent) shall have arranged all that is necessary to be done, he might return to his own country, and let the excellent Dr. Hodgkin act for the Liberian government. There is not a more warm-hearted and true friend of the African and of Liberia than Dr. H., who is benevolence itself. Besides, every one loves and reveres him, and in consequence he has great influence, and he can do more for any cause that he advocates than most men. I have written to my friend, Mr. E. Cresson, on this subject, and I beg to refer you to him.

Hoping, whenever I can serve the cause of Liberia, in which I feel the deepest possible interest, that you will employ me, I beg to subscribe myself, dear sir, though personally unknown to you, yours most truly and respectfully,

GERARD RALSTON.

To the Rev. WM. McLAIN,

Washington City.

Latest from Liberia.

GOVERNMENT HOUSE,

Monrovia, Aug. 2, 1845.

SIR:—Having written to you so recently, I have nothing at present worth communicating. The affairs of the colony are progressing in their regular order, peace and quietness prevail throughout our borders.

In consequence of the great quantity of rain that has fallen within the last two months, the commercial operations of the colony have rather flagged—still considerable improvement is going on. Several respectable buildings are being erected and old

ones undergoing repairs. Among the former, we have going up in town a commodious and permanent market house, which we hope to have finished soon, as such a building is very much needed.

The health of the colony is remarkably good, and the colonists turning their attention more than ever to agriculture.

In consequence of the death of the officer who took Mr. Benson's vessel to Sierra Leone, her trial has been delayed, and will probably not proceed for several weeks, as the examination cannot take place until the return of

the "Lily" to Sierra Leone, (the vessel that captured her.)

We have had no visit from any of Her Majesty's officers since my last letter; I suppose they are waiting for instructions from their government.

I think we have never been longer without American news; now six months since we have had a line from you, and upwards of four months since the latest dates of American papers.

We are anxious to learn something respecting the existing difficulties between the United States and Great Britain—rumor has it, that a war is inevitable; this, however, I cannot bring my mind to believe—but we are particularly anxious to hear from you, and to see the last annual report of the Board of Directors; and have our minds placed at rest respecting the encroachments of British traders. I am sure the subject must have claimed the attention of the Board; and hope to find that they have settled definitely this unpleasant controversy. For, sir, until these colonies are placed in a situation, or their position so defined, as will enable them, according to the law of nations, to exercise national rights, and compel foreign-

ers to respect their rights, we must remain the subjects of continual British persecution, and suffer all the abuse and annoyances that unprincipled British traders may think proper to heap upon us, even within our own territory.

This vessel brings us sad intelligence respecting the M. B. C. F. M. Mission establishment at the Gaboon. Mr. Wilson, it seems, in consequence of repeated annoyances, and some recent outrage committed by the French, has determined to abandon the station:—this will be unfortunate.

A few weeks ago one of Her Majesty's brigs, the *Pantagoon*, fell in with a slaver, to leeward, a large ship heavily armed, and was beaten off with a loss of twenty-six men killed and one officer wounded.

Accompanying you will receive the accounts from the store for the quarter ending 30th June.

I am, sir, respectfully,

Yours, &c., &c.,

J. J. ROBERTS.

Rev. WM. McLAIN,

Sec. Am. Col. Soc'y,

Washington City, D. C.

Extracts from the Journal of an African Cruiser.

ANCHORED at Cape Palmas. This colony is independent of Liberia proper, and is under the jurisdiction and patronage of the Maryland State Colonization Society. Its title is Maryland in Liberia. The local government is composed of an agent and an assistant agent, both to be appointed by the Society at home for two years; a secretary, to be appointed by the agents annually; and a vice agent, two counsellors, a register, a sheriff, a treasurer, and a committee on new emigrants, to be chosen by the people. Several

minor officers are appointed by the agent, who is entrusted with great powers. The judiciary consists of the agent, and a competent number of justices of the peace, who are appointed by him, and two of whom, together with the agent, constitute the supreme court. A single justice has jurisdiction in small criminal cases, and in all civil cases where the claim does not exceed twenty dollars.

Male colored people, at twenty years of age, are entitled to vote, if they hold land in their own right,

or pay a tax of one dollar. Every emigrant must sign a pledge to support the constitution, and to refrain from the use of ardent spirits, except in case of sickness. By a provision of the constitution, emigration is never to be prohibited.

Our boat attempted to land at some rocks, just outside of the port, in order to avoid crossing the bar; but as the tide was low and the surf troublesome, we found it impracticable. I hate a bar; there is no fair play about it. The long rollers come in from the sea, and, in consequence of the shallowness of the water, seem to pile themselves up so as inevitably to overwhelm you, unless you have skillful rowers, a good helmsman, and a lively boat. At one moment, perhaps, your keel touches the sand; the next, you are lifted upon a wave and come swiftly along for many yards, while the men lie on their oars, or only pull an occasional stroke to keep the boat's head right. Now they give away with a will, to escape a white-crested wave that comes trembling and roaring after them; and now again they cease rowing, or back-water, awaiting a favorable moment to cross. Should you get into a trough of the sea, you stand a very pretty chance to be swamped, and have your boat rolled over and over upon its crew; while, perchance, a hungry shark may help himself to a leg or arm.

Pulling across this ugly barrier, we landed at the only wharf of which the colony can boast. There is here a stone warehouse, but of no great size. In front of it lay a large log, some thirty feet long, on which twelve or fourteen full grown natives were roosting, precisely like turkeys on a pole. They are accustomed to sit for hours together, in this position, resting upon their heels. A girl presented us with a note, informing all whom it might concern, that Mrs.

— would do our washing; but as the ship's stay was to be short, we turned our attention to the cattle, of which a score or two were feeding in the vicinity. They are small, but having been acclimated, are sleek and well-conditioned. As I have before observed, it is a well-established fact, that all four-footed emigrants are not less subject to the coast fever than bipeds. Horses, cattle, and even fowls, whether imported or brought from the interior to the coast, speedily sicken and often die.

I dined with Mr. Russwurm, the colonial agent, a man of distinguished ability and of collegiate education. He gave me some monkey skins and other curiosities, and favored me with much information respecting the establishment. The mean temperature of the place is eighty degrees of Fahrenheit, which is something less than that of Monrovia, on account of its being more open to the sea. The colony comprises six hundred and fifty inhabitants, all of whom dwell within four miles of the cape. Besides the settlement of Harper, situated on the cape itself, there is that of Mount Tubman, (named in honor of Mr. T. of Georgia,) which lies beyond Mount Vaughan, and three and a half miles from Cape Palmas. There is no road to the interior of the country, except a native path. The agents, with a party of twenty, recently penetrated about seventy miles into the Bush, passing through two tribes, and coming to a third, of large numbers and strength. The king of the latter tribe has a large town, where many manufactures are carried on, such as iron implements and wooden furniture of various kinds. He refused Mr. Russwurm an escort, alleging that there was war, but sent his son to the coast to see the black-white people and their improvements.

A large native tribe, the Grebo,

dwells at Cape Palmas in the midst of the colonists. Their conical huts, to the number of some hundreds, presents the most interesting part of the scene. Opposite the town, upon an uninhabited island at no great distance, the dead are exposed, clad in their best apparel, and furnished with food, cloth, crockery and other articles. A canoe is placed over the body. This island of the dead is called by a name, which, in the plainest of English, signifies "go to hell;" a circumstance that seems to imply very gloomy anticipations as to the fate of their deceased brethren on the part of these poor Grebos. As a badge of mourning, they wear cloth of dark blue instead of gayer colors. Dark blue is universally along the coast the hue indicative of mourning.

The Fishmen at Cape Palmas, as well as at most other places on the coast, refuse to sell fish to be eaten on board of vessels, believing that the remains of the dead fish will frighten away the living ones.

Leaving the ship in one of our boats, pulled by Kroomen, we crossed the bar at the mouth of the Mesurado, and in ten minutes afterwards were alongside of the colonial wharf. Half a dozen young natives and colonists issued from a small house to watch our landing; but their curiosity was less instructive and annoying, than would have been the same number of New York boys, at the landing of a foreign man-of-war's boat. On our part, we looked around us with interest which even common-place objects possess for those whose daily spectacle is nothing more varied than the sea and sky. Even the most ordinary shore scenery becomes captivating, after a week or two on shipboard. Two colonists were sawing plank in the shade of the large stone storehouse of the colony. Ascending the hill we passed the

printing office of the Liberia Herald, where two workmen were printing the colonial laws. The publication of the newspaper had been suspended for nearly three months, to enable them to accomplish work of more pressing importance. Proceeding onward we came to the governor's house, and were received with that gentleman's usual courtesy. The house is well furnished, and arranged for a hot climate; it is situated near the highest point of the principal street, and commands from its piazza a view of most of the edifices in Monrovia town.

The fort is on the highest ground in the village, one hundred feet above the sea; it is of stone, triangular in shape, and has a good deal the appearance of an American pound for cattle, but this point the street descends in both directions. About fifty houses are in view. First, the the Government House, opposite to which stands the neat dwellings of Judge Benedict and Doctor Day. Further on you perceive the largest house in the village, erected by Rev. Mr. Williams, of the Methodist mission. On the right is a one-story brick house and two or three wooden ones. A large stone edifice, intended for a court-house and legislative hall, has recently been completed. The street itself is wide enough for a spacious pasture, and affords abundance of luxuriant grass, through which runs two or three well-trodden foot paths. Apart from the village, on the cape we discerned the light-house, the base of which is about two hundred feet above the sea.

Went ashore in the second cutter. The Kroomen managed her so bunglingly, that on striking the beach, she swung broadside to the sea. In this position, a wave rolled into her, half filled the boat, and drenched us from head to foot. Apprehending she would roll over upon us and break our limbs

or backs, we jumped into the water and waded ashore.

While in the village, I visited the court-house to hear the trial of a cause involving eight hundred dollars. Governor Roberts acted as judge, and displayed a great deal of dignity in presiding, and much wisdom and good sense in his decision. This is the highest court of the colony. There are no regularly educated lawyers in Liberia, devoting themselves exclusively to the profession; but the pleading seems to be done principally by the medical faculty. Two doctors were of counsel in the case alluded to, and talked of Coke, Blackstone, and Kent, as learnedly as if it had been the business of their lives to unravel legal mysteries. The pleadings were simple, and the arguments brief, for the judge kept them strictly to the point. An action for slander was afterwards tried, in which damages were laid at one hundred dollars. One of the medico-juris-counsels opened the cause with an appeal to the feelings, and wrought his own sensibilities to such a pitch as to declare, that, though his client asked only for one hundred dollars, he considered the jury bound in conscience to give him two. The doctor afterwards told me that he had walked eighty miles to act as counsel in this court. A tailor argued stoutly for the defendant, but with little success; his client was fined twenty dollars.

On our return, a companion and myself took passage for the ship in a native canoe. These little vessels are scooped out of a log, and are even of less size and capacity than the birch canoes of our Indians, and so light that two men, using each a single hand, may easily carry them from place to place. Our weight caused the frail bark to sit so deep in the water, that before reaching the ship we underwent another drenching.

Three changes of linen in one day are altogether too expensive and troublesome.

November 1st. Went up to St. Paul's river on a pleasure excursion, with the governor and several men of less note. We touched at the public farm, and found only a single man in charge. The sugar-cane was small in size, was ill-weeded, and to my eye did not appear flourishing. The land is apparently good and suitable, but labor is deficient, and my impressions were not favorable in regard to the manner of cultivation. The mill was exposed to the atmosphere, and the kettles were full of foul water. We landed likewise at New Georgia, a settlement of recaptured Africans; there was here a pretty good appearance, both of people and farms. We called also at Caldwell, a rich tract of level land, of which a space of about two miles is cultivated by comfortable and happy-looking colonists. A very pleasant dinner was furnished by the governor at what was once a great slave station, and the proprietor of which is still hostile to the colonists, and to both English and Americans, for breaking up the trade. We saw several alligators. One of them, about three feet in length, lay on a log with his mouth wide open catching flies.

From the whole course of my observations, I cannot but feel satisfied that the colonists are better off here than in America. They are more independent, as healthy, and much happier. Agriculture will doubtless be their chief employment, but, for years to come, the sugar-cane cannot be carried to any considerable extent. There are many calls upon the resources of the Colonization Society and the inhabitants, more pressing and which promise a readier and greater return. A large capital should be invested in the business, in order to render it profitable. The want of

a steam mill, to grind the cane, has been severely felt. Ignorance of the most appropriate soil, and of the most productive kind of cane, and the best methods of planting and grinding it, have likewise contributed to retard the cultivation of sugar. But the grand difficulty is the want of a ready capital and a high price of labor. The present wages of labor are from sixty to seventy-five cents per day. The natives refuse to work among the canes, on account of the prickly nature of the leaves, and the irritating property of a gum that exudes from them. Yet it may be doubted whether the colony will ever make sugar to any important extent, unless some method be found to apply native labor to that purpose. Private enterprise is no more successful than the public efforts. A plantation has been commenced at Millsburg, and prosecuted with great diligence, but with no auspicious results. Sugar has been made, indeed, but at a cost of three times as much, per pound, as would have purchased it.

The cultivation of rice is universal in Africa. The natives never neglect it, for fear of famine. For an upland crop, the rice-lands are turned over and planted in March and April. In September and October the rice is reaped, beaten out, and cleansed for market or storing. The lower crop, on the contrary, is planted in September, October, and November, in marshy land, and harvested in March and April. Lands will not produce two successive crops without manuring and ploughing; about two bushels of seed are sown to the acre; and the crop, on the acre of upland, is about thirty bushels, and from forty to forty-five bushels on the low lands. The rice is transported to market on the backs of natives, packed in bundles of about three feet long and nine inches in diameter. The wrappers are made

of large leaves, bound together by cords of bark. The load is sustained by shoulder-straps and by a band passing round the forehead of the bearer.

Cassada is a kind of yam, and sends up a tall stalk, with light green leaves. It has a long root, looking like a piece of wood with the brown bark on; the interior is white and and mealy, rather insipid but nutritious, and invaluable as an article of food; it is raised from the seed, root or stem, the latter being considered preferable. Its yield is very great: in six months it is fit to dig, and may be preserved fifteen or eighteen months in the ground, but ceases to be eatable in three or four days after being dug. Tapioca is manufactured from this root. Indian corn is planted in May and harvested in September; or, if planted in July, it ripens in November and December. Sweet potatoes constitutes one of the main reliances of the colonists; they are raised from seeds, roots, or vines, but most successfully from the latter. The season of planting is in May or June, and the crop ripens four months later. Plantains and bananas are a valuable product; they are propagated from suckers, which yield a first crop in about a year. The top is cut down, and new stalks spring from the root. Ground-nuts are the same article peddled by the old women at our street corners under the name of peanuts, so called from the close resemblance of the bush to the tops of the sweet pea. This nut is used in England for making oil. The cocoa is a bulbous root of the size of a tea cup, and has some resemblance to the artichoke. Pine apples, small but finely flavored, grow wild in the woods, and are abundant in their season.

In concluding these very imperfect and miscellaneous observations on

the agriculture of Liberia, it may be remarked that the farmers' life and modes of labor are different from those of the same class in other countries; inasmuch as there is here no spring, autumn, or winter. The year is a perpetual summer; therein, if in nothing else, resembling the climate of the original Paradise, to which men of all colors look back as the birth-place of their species. The culture of the soil appears to be emphatically the proper occupation of the Liberians. Many persons have anticipated making money more easily by trade; but being unaccustomed to commercial pursuits, and possessing but little capital, by far the greater number soon find themselves bankrupt and burthened by debt. With these evidences of the inequality, on their part, of competition with vessels trading on the coast, and with the established traders of the colony, the inhabitants are now turning their attention more exclusively to agriculture.

Anchored at Sinou at noon.

Ashore. Visited Fishtown, a well built native village, containing probably four hundred inhabitants. It is within about two hundred yards of the colonial dwellings. The people are said to have committed many depredations upon the colonists; and there is an evident intention of driving them off. This is the tribe with which we are to hold a palaver. There are two grand divisions of native Africans on the western coast, the Fishmen and the Bushmen; the latter being inhabitants of the interior; and the former comprising all the tribes along the sea shore, who gain a subsistence by fishing, trading between the Bushmen and foreign vessels, and laboring on shipboard. The Kroomen so often mentioned, are in some respects a distinct and separate people; although a large portion, probably nine-tenths of those bearing that

name, are identical with the Fishmen. The latter are generally treacherous and deceitful; the Kroomen are much more honest, but still are not to be trusted without reserved discrimination.

The government of these people and of the natives generally, is nominally monarchical, but democratic in substance. The regal office appears to be hereditary in a family, but not to descend according to our ideas of lineal succession. The power of a king is greatly circumscribed by the privilege, which every individual in the tribe possesses, of calling a palaver. If a man deems himself injured, he demands a full discussion of his rights or wrongs in presence of the rulers and the tribe. The head man sits in judgment, and substantial justice is generally done. There are persons, celebrated for their power and copiousness of talking, who appear as counsel in behalf of the respective parties. The more distinguished of these advocates are sometimes sent for from a distance of two or three hundred miles, to speak at a palaver; and, in such cases, they leave all other employment and hurry to the scene of action.

It would appear that on other parts of the coast, or further in the interior, the native kings possess more power and assume greater state, than those who have come under my notice. The king of Appollonia, adjoining Axim Territory, is said to be very rich and powerful. If the report of his nearest civilized neighbor, the governor of Axim, is to be credited, this potentate's house is furnished most sumptuously in European style.—Gold cups, pitchers, and plates, are used at his table, with furniture of corresponding magnificence in all the departments of his household. He possesses large treasuries, bullion and gold dust. The governor of Dixcove informed me, that, about

four years ago, he accompanied an English expedition against Appollonia, which is still claimed by England although her fort there has been abandoned. On their approach the king fled and left them masters of the place. Some of the English soldiers opened the sepulchre of the king last deceased, and took away an unknown amount of gold. Afterwards, by order of the governor, the remainder was taken from the grave amounting to several hundred dollars. Together with the treasure, numerous articles had been buried, such as a knife, plate and cup, swords, guns, cloth, goods of various kinds, and in short, every thing that the king had required while alive. There were also four skeletons, two of each sex, buried beneath the royal coffin.

It is said that sixty victims were sacrificed on occasion of the funeral, of whom only the most distinguished were allowed, even in death, to approach their master so nearly, and act as his immediate attendants in the world of spirits. The splendor of an African funeral on the Gold Coast is unparalleled. It is customary for persons of wealth to smear the corpse of their friends with oil, and then to powder them with gold dust from head to foot, so as to produce the appearance of bronzed or golden statues.

The present king of Appollonia deposited six hundred ounces of gold (about ten thousand dollars) with the governor of Cape Coast Castle as security for his good behavior. His cellar is well supplied with rare wines which he offers liberally to strangers who land at his residence. All these circumstances, and this barbaric magnificence, indicates a far different condition from that of the native kings in the vicinity of Liberia, who live simply like their subjects, on vegetables and fish, and one of whom was proud to array himself in a cast-

off garment of my own. Their wealth consists not in gold, plate, or bullion, but in crockery and earthenware. Not only the kings, but all the rich natives, accumulate articles of this kind, until their dwellings resemble warehouses of crockery. Perhaps fifty white-wash bowls, with as many pitchers, mugs, and plates, may be seen around the room; and when these utensils become so numerous as to excite the envy of the tribe, the owners are said to bury them in the earth.

In the house of King Glass (so named, I presume, from the transparency of his character) I noticed the first indications of a taste for the fine arts. Seventy coarse colored engravings, glazed and framed and suspended on the walls, and what was most curious, nearly all of them were copies of the same print, a portrait of King William the Fourth.

It is to be desired that some missionary should give an account of the degree and kind of natural religion among the native tribes. Their belief in the efficacy of sassy-wood to discover guilt or innocence, indicates a faith in an invisible equity. Some of them, however, select the most ridiculous of animals, the monkey, as their visible symbol of the Deity; or, as appears more probable, they stand in spiritual dread of him from an idea that the souls of the dead are again embodied in this shape. Under this impression, they pay a kind of worship to the monkey, and never kill him near a burial-place; and though in other situations they kill and eat them, they endeavor to propitiate his favor by respectful language, and the use of charms. Other natives in the neighborhood of Gaboon worship the shark, and throw slaves to him to be devoured.

On the whole their morality is superior to their religion, at least, as

between members of the same tribe, although they scarcely seem to acknowledge moral obligations in respect to strangers. Their landmarks, for instance, are held sacred among the individuals of a tribe. A father takes his son and points out the stake and stones which marks the boundary between him and his neighbor. There needs no other registry of land passed from sire to son, and is sold and bought with as undisputed and secure a title as well as our deeds and formalities can establish. But between different tribes wars frequently arise on disputed boundary questions, and in consequence of encroachments made by either party. Land palavers, and women palavers, are the great causes of war. Veracity seems to be the virtue most indiscriminately practised, as well towards the stranger as the brother. The natives are cautious as to the accuracy of the stories which they promulgate, and seldom make a stronger asseveration than "I think he be true!" Yet their consciences do not shrink from the use of falsehood and artifice where these appear expedient.

The natives are not insensible to the advantages of education. They are fond of having their children in the families of colonists, when they learn English and the manners of civilized life, and get a plenty to eat. Probably the parents hope in this way to endow their offspring with some of the advantages which they suppose the white man to possess above the colored race. So sensible are they of their own inferiority, that if a person looks steadily in the face of a native, when about to be attacked by him, and calls out to him loudly, the chances are ten to one that the native runs away. This effect is analogous to that which the eye of man is said to exert on the fiercest of savage beasts.

The same involuntary and sad acknowledgment of a lower order of being appears in their whole intercourse with the whites. Yet such self-abasement is scarcely just; for the slave traders, who constitute the specimens of civilized men which the natives have hitherto been most familiar, are by no means on a par with themselves, in a moral point of view. It is a pity to see such awful homage rendered to the mere intellect, apart from truth and goodness.

It is a redeeming trait of the native character, so far as it goes, that women are not wholly without influence in the public councils. If, when a tribe is debating the expediency of going to war, the women come under the council-tree and represent the evils that will result, their opinion will have great weight, and may probably turn the scale in the favor of peace. On the other hand, if the women express a wish that they were men, in order that they may go to war, the warriors declare for it at once. It is to be feared that there is an innate fierceness even in the gentler sex, which makes them as likely to give their voices for war as for peace. It is a feminine office and privilege, on the African coast, to torture prisoners taken in war, by sticking thorns in their flesh, and in various other ways, before they are put to death.

The unfortunate Captain Farwell underwent three hours of torture, at the hands of the women and children. So likewise did the mate of Captain Burk's vessel, at Sinou.

The natives are very cruel in their fights, and spare neither age nor sex; they kill the women and female children, lest they should be the mothers of future warriors, and the boys, lest they should fight hereafter. If they take prisoners, it is either to torture them to death, or

to sell them as slaves. The Fishmen have often evinced courage and obstinacy in war, as was the case in their assaults upon the Liberian settlers, in the heroic age of the colony, when Ashmun and his associates displayed such warlike ability in defeating them. The Bushmen are as cruel as the former, but appear to be more cowardly. I have heard the Rev. Mr. Brown, himself an actor in the scene, relate the story of the fight at Heddington, in which three colonists assisted by two women, were attacked at daybreak by five hundred natives, many of whom were armed with muskets. Zion Harris and Mr. Dewery were the marksmen, while the clergyman assumed the duty of loading the guns. The natives rushed onward in so dense a crowd, that almost every bullet and buckshot of the defenders hit its man. The besieged had but six muskets, one hundred cartridges, and a few charges of powder. Their external fortifications consisted only of a slight picket-fence which might have been thrown down in an instant. But fortunately, when there were but three charges of powder left in the house, a shot killed Gotorah, the chief of the assailants, at whose fall the whole army fled in dismay. One of the trophies of their defeat was the kettle which they had brought for the purpose of cooking the mission-

aries, and holding a cannibal feast. The battle field is poetically termed the bed of honor, but the bravest man may be excused for shrinking from a burial in his enemy's stomach! Poetry can make nothing of such a fate.

Rude and wretched as is the condition of the natives, it has been affirmed that many of the Liberian colonists have mingled with them, and preferred their savage mode of life to the habits of civilization. Only one instance of the kind has come to my personal knowledge. We had on board for two or three months, a party of Kroomen, among whom was one, dressed like the rest, but speaking better English. Being questioned, he said that he had learned English on board of merchant vessels, where he had been employed for several years. We took this young man into the ward-room, where he worked for three months, associating chiefly with the Kroomen on deck, speaking their language, and perfectly resembling them in his appearance and general habits. About the time of discharging him we discovered that he was a native of North Carolina, had resided many years in Liberia, but, being idle and vicious, had finally given up the civilized for the savage state. His real name was Elijah Park; his assumed one, William Henry.

African Slave Trade.

THE following articles originally appeared in the *Boston Traveller*, and being on a subject of great interest, we have chosen to transfer them to our columns all together, that our readers may have a complete

view of the whole ground occupied by them. We rejoice in every thing which *looks like* breaking up the terrible traffic in slaves. We have lately seen it stated that a *steamer* has been fitted up for a *slaver*. If

this is true, it furnishes another strong argument for employment of *steamers* in breaking up the trade. Force must be met with force, and speed with speed. A paragraph in the letter from Gov. Roberts, in another column, touching an engagement between a slaver and a British man-of-war, with a loss of several men on the latter, shows that no efforts will be spared by the slavers to prosecute their traffic.

THE LATE SLAVE TRADE DISCLOSURES.

NO. I.

The despatches of Mr. Wise, published with the Message of President Tyler, of Feb. 20, 1845, are very justly receiving the earnest attention of many of our citizens. They show, indeed, nothing substantially new in the operations of slave traders. The mode of proceeding which they describe, is essentially the same that has been repeatedly described in British and American documents for several years past. Yet they bring to view some late instances of the offence; they implicate known American citizens by name; they show the present connexion of an extensive branch of English and American commerce with the slave trade; and they offer some new suggestions concerning its suppression. The Message itself, too, has been noticed with some severity in the British Parliament, and abused without reserve by the British press. It may be well, therefore, to examine how far the doctrines and statements of the Message and accompanying documents, and the comments upon them on both sides of the Atlantic, are founded in truth. And first, of the matter of APPRENTICESHIP.

Mr. Wise says, in his despatch:

"I submit whether, under our

treaty with England, some inquiry should be made which will elicit information as to her mode of enslaving captured Africans in her colonies. Is it not, in fact, a part of the slave trade to take them away from their own country without their consent, to bind them out under a system of apprenticeship? Are proper steps taken to guard their *identity*, and to prevent them from being enslaved for life? If they may be held in bondage for a term of five or ten years, why not for fifty or one hundred years, or any period beyond the duration of human life? It is openly avowed here, from various quarters, that many of these apprentices, after being bound out, are reported to be *dead* by their masters: their names are changed and flesh marks are taken out, and they are transformed into slaves for life. Has England, under her treaties with and pledges to the world, a right to carry on a system like this, which leads to direct encouragement of the trade she professes to suppress, and which, by fraud and cruelty, increases its horrors, inhumanities and crimes?"

The President says, in his Message, of British participation in the slave trade:

"Merchants and capitalists furnish the means of carrying it on; manufactures, for which the negroes are exchanged, are the products of her workshops; the slaves, when captured, instead of being returned back to their homes, are transferred to her colonial possessions in the West Indies, and made the means of swelling the amount of their products, by a system of apprenticeship for a term of years; and the officers and crew who capture the vessels receive, on the whole number of slaves, so many pounds sterling *per capita*, by the way of bounty.

"It must be obvious that, while these large interests are enlisted in favor of its continuance, it will be difficult, if not impossible, to suppress the nefarious traffic; and that it results would be, in effect, but a continuance of the slave trade in another and more cruel form; for it can be but a matter of little difference to the African, whether he is torn from his country and transported to the West Indies as a slave, in the regular course of the trade, or captured by a cruiser, transferred to the same place, and made to perform the same labor under the name of an apprentice, which is at present the practical operation of the policy adopted."

On this, the National Intelligencer remarks:

"As to the subsequent disposal charged by the Ex-President to be so cruelly and wrongfully made of the captives, all these very hasty charges have been abundantly exploded, in the statements made in Parliament by Sir Robert Peel and others. These we gave a few days since, as received by the Great Western."

Such was the impression very generally made by the statements of the British Minister. But what are the facts?

Since the abolition of slavery in the British West Indies, many of the emancipated have left the sugar plantations, and opened little farms for themselves. To supply their places, various plans have been devised for procuring free laborers from different parts of the world, such as the Hill Coolies from Hindostan, the wandering Chinese from the Malayan Archipelago, and the negroes from Africa; but none of them have been attended with the desired degree of success. In August, 1842, a Select Committee of the British House of Commons, on

the state of the British possessions on the west coast of Africa, made a report, in which they urged the removal of recaptured Africans to the West Indies as "free laborers," under the patronage and supervision of government. This report may be found at page 1036 of Kennedy's Report to Congress on African Colonization, Feb. 28, 1843. Its recommendation was adopted. And now, when a slaver is captured on the African coast by a British ship, she is taken to Sierra Leone, the slaves are landed, and instead of being settled in the colony as formerly, are told that they must emigrate to the West Indies as "free laborers," or shift for themselves. If they will consent to emigrate, the government will give them a passage gratis. If they refuse, they must hire themselves out at Sierra Leone, at four pence to seven pence a day, where they can find employment, which is seldom possible. If they try to reach their old homes, they have no means of supplying their wants on the journey; and if they escape the danger of being enslaved by the way, they have nothing to expect but to be sold by their old masters to the next slaver that arrives. They are virtually obliged to emigrate. The report proposed that other emigrants from Africa should be entitled to "a free passage back, at the end of a certain period; say three or four years;" but makes no provision for the return of the recaptured African, except "at his own cost." The President and Mr. Wise assert that they are bound out for a limited period, and are not allowed to return at all, under a certain number of years. Whether this assertion is correct, the means of determining are not at hand. These facts Sir Robert Peel has not denied.

But to understand the exact

amount of Sir Robert's denial, we must look at another piece of British legislation. By an act of Parliament which went into operation August 1, 1834, slavery was abolished in the British colonies, and a newly invented system of apprenticeship was substituted for it. Those who had been slaves up to that time were thenceforth called *apprentices*. They were obliged to remain on the same plantations, and perform the same labor, as formerly; and a cumbersome array of "stipendiary magistrates" was appointed, to regulate the use of the whip, the tread-mill, and other punishments, and, in general, to guard their rights. During two years, under this system, 60,000 "apprentices" received 250,000 lashes, and 50,000 punishments by the tread-wheel and other "instruments of legalized torture." This ill-constructed system was to have continued in operation for six years, when the apprentices were to have become free; but it operated too badly to be endured so long, and by another act of Parliament, it was brought to an end on the first of August, 1838.

In this way, the word *apprentice*, when applied to a black or colored person in the West Indies, has acquired a technical meaning in England: as there understood, it designates the system which prevailed from 1834 to 1838. Sir Robert Peel evidently understood the President to assert, that the recaptured Africans now carried to the West Indies, are made apprentices *in that sense of the word*. When he denies the truth of the President's assertion, he means to deny that they are made apprentices *in that sense*; and he confirms the denial by reminding his hearers that the apprenticeship act had been repealed.

It may be that Mr. Wise, and the President after him, actually fell in-

to the mistake that Sir Robert Peel ascribes to them, but probably they used the word "apprentice" in a looser sense, as meaning a person bound to labor for another for a term of years, or indefinitely. But however that may be, Sir Robert's denial, notwithstanding its plausible appearance, really amounts to little more than a quibble on the word "apprentice." It is still true that recaptured Africans are virtually compelled by the British government, to join the gangs of laborers on the sugar plantations in the British West Indies and South America.

An exception must be made, however, in respect to the human cargoes of Spanish slavers, captured by British cruisers. Such Africans, according to a treaty between Great Britain and Spain, are taken to Cuba, delivered to the Spanish authorities, and by them bound out for a term of years, to individuals, who agree to teach them such and such things; and that they are falsely reported dead, and made slaves for life, in the manner described by Mr. Wise, is notorious. The charge of making them first apprentices, and then fraudulently slaves for life, is undeniably true of those whom Great Britain recaptures and turns over to Spain.

In view of these facts, the suggestion that the United States may with propriety inquire into the disposal which Great Britain makes of recaptured Africans, does not seem to be wholly without foundation. We know where they are carried; and we have at least a plausible claim to know, better than we do, what is done with them.

THE LATE SLAVE TRADE DISCLOSURES.

NO. II.

The Right of Search.

In respect to the right of search, Mr. Wise, as it seems to us, strange-

ly misunderstands the doctrines of his own government. He says:

"If I understand the position taken by our government, it is that the flag of the United States shall be positive protection to their own vessels; and that if any power attempts to exercise the authority to search a vessel sailing under that flag, it must be at its peril. That is to say, if the vessel belongs to the United States, and is under their flag, it is, under any circumstances, even when there are slaves themselves found on board, a case for reparation. If the vessel belongs not to the United States, and is under false colors, it is a case of which the United States will not take cognizance. The Earl of Aberdeen, as I understand, yields the point that where the vessel is found, on visit, (which means, practically, the act of search,) to belong to the United States, even though she have no slaves on board, the British government or cruiser will not pretend to the right of interfering with her. The United States insist that they shall not search 'to find out whether the vessel be a vessel of the United States or not;' and if they do, and the vessel does belong to their flag, whether slaves be found on board or not, they shall be held answerable."

Now, as we understand the laws of the United States, for an *American* vessel to be engaged in the slave trade is an impossibility. An American vessel, by engaging in the slave trade, forfeits her nationality. She is, therefore, no longer an *American*, but a pirate,—“an enemy to the human race,”—and is a lawful prize to any who can take her. Such appears to be our laws, publicly proclaimed to the world, and we know not that our government has ever advanced any claim inconsistent with them. It is true that, on the question whether a certain ship, originally American, has become a slave

trader, our government has not agreed to be bound by the adjudications of British courts. If an American captain should complain that his ship had been wrongfully condemned by the British courts as a slave trader, our government would doubtless investigate the case, and should he be found innocent, would demand “reparation;” but should the sentence of the British court be found to be correct; should the investigation show that he was actually engaged in the slave trade, all the “reparation” he would get, according to our laws, would be a halter, applied according to the statute in that case made and provided. As such adjudications are thus liable to become subjects of subsequent discussion, and perhaps difference of opinion and consequent irritation between the two governments, the British government thinks best to abstain from them; and the Earl of Aberdeen has actually made the declaration which Mr. Wise ascribes to him; but our government makes no such claim on behalf of slavers, as Mr. Wise supposes.

By act of Congress of May 15, 1820, it is provided that if any American citizen, or “any person whatever, being of the crew or ship’s company” of an American ship, shall be engaged in the slave trade, “such citizen or person shall be adjudged a pirate; and on conviction thereof before the circuit court of the United States for the district wherein he shall be brought or found, shall suffer death.”

Referring to this act, the President says, in a communication to the Senate, of January 9, 1843:

“Vessels of the United States found engaged in the African slave trade, are guilty of piracy under acts of Congress. It is difficult to say that such vessels can claim any interference of the government in their behalf, into whosoever hands they

may happen to fall, any more than vessels that should turn general pirates. Notorious African slave traders cannot claim the protection of the American character, inasmuch as they are acting in direct violation of the laws of their country, and stand denounced by those laws as pirates."

Mr. Webster, in a despatch to Mr. Everett, of March 28, 1843, to be read to Lord Aberdeen, and a copy given if requested, says:

"The government of the United States fully admits that its flag can give no immunity to pirates, nor to any other than regularly documented American vessels."

The word "pirates" is here used with evident reference to the act of Congress above cited. As the whole despatch relates exclusively to the right of search with reference to the slave trade, that word could not be appropriately introduced in any other sense.

Nor is there any controversy, as Mr. Wise and many others seem to suppose, between the two governments, as to the *practice*, (in distinction from the *right*;) of visiting any suspected vessel for the purpose of ascertaining her nationality. That matter was arranged by the correspondence and other documents which followed the Ashburton treaty. Lord Aberdeen, in his note to Mr. Everett, of December 20, 1841, expressly disclaims what the British ministry call "the right of search;" that is, the right of examining vessels known and admitted to be American, in the time of peace; but he claims what he calls "the right of visit;" that is, the right of detaining and boarding a vessel suspected of hoisting false colors, for the purpose of ascertaining whether she is really American. Yet he admits, expressly, that if the vessel so detained proves to be American, she

is entitled to damages for the detention. On this principle Great Britain has acted, and has actually paid damages in several instances, without objection, on the damage being proved.

The American doctrine on this subject was set forth in the despatch of Mr. Webster to Mr. Everett, of March 28, 1843, before referred to.

Mr. Webster denies that there is any such distinction as the British government contends for, between the "right of visit" and the "right of search." He shows that no such distinction is recognized by writers on the law of nations, or feasible in practice. He denies that any such right exists. Lord Aberdeen had admitted "that if in the exercise of this right, either from involuntary error or in spite of every precaution, loss or injury should be sustained, a prompt reparation would be afforded." Mr. Webster argues from this admission, that such detention is not a matter of right; for "the general rule of law certainly is, that in the proper and prudent exercise of his own rights, no one is answerable for undesigned injuries." If the detention subjects the detainer to the payment of damages, as Lord Aberdeen admits, it is a wrong, and not a right. Yet Mr. Webster admits that "law and reason make a distinction between injuries committed through mistake, and injuries committed by design; the former being entitled to fair and just compensation, the latter demanding exemplary damages, and sometimes personal punishment."

With this despatch, the discussion terminated. Great Britain declares that she will continue the practice of detaining suspected vessels at her discretion, to ascertain their nationality; paying damages, if the vessel detained proves to be American. Our government admits that, in such

case, the "fair and just compensation" which Great Britain offers, is all that we are entitled to demand. The only unsettled question between the two governments is, whether such detention of American vessels shall be called a *right*, or an *unintentional wrong*. In practice, Great Britain has, with the assent of our government, every thing which her sense of propriety and her own understanding of the law of nations permits her to demand.

Great Britain would doubtless be glad, if we would grant her, by treaty, what she calls "the right of visit;" so that her cruisers might, at pleasure, detain American vessels on pretense of suspicion, without being liable for damages; but this our government cannot grant.

Such appears to us to be the law on this subject; and such is the whole ground of complaint against our government, in respect to "the right of search."

THE LATE SLAVE TRADE DISCLOSURES.

NO. III.

British cruisers and head-money.

Against the British system of paying "head-money" for recaptured slaves, Mr. Wise brings the following accusation:

"It is asserted here positively, as I have informed you on another occasion, that the British cruisers do not take the proper and active steps to prevent the *shipping* of slaves in *Africa*; and the alleged motive is, that they seem to desire the slaves to be shipped—to be once put on board—in order to obtain the bounty of so many pounds sterling *per capita* for their capture, and to send them, as apprentices, to Demarara and other possessions of Great Britain."

The National Intelligencer pronounces this "a very hasty as well as invidious imputation against the English cruisers; for Mr. Wise him-

self afterwards distinctly contradicts the charge, in the words of Mr. Slacum: 'The cargo, be it what it may, [except slaves, as we understand,] affords no just ground of capture:' a sentence that clears up the whole accusation."

The "imputation," however hastily made by Mr. Wise, and however it may overstate the evil, is an old one; and the assertion of Mr. Slacum, which is said to "clear up" the matter, is erroneous.

The imputation is an old one. It was made in language equally explicit and severe, several years since, by Lord Brougham, in his place in Parliament; but the report of his speech is not at hand.

Lieut. Charles H. Bell, of the U. S. brig Dolphin, uses the following language in a letter to the Secretary of the Navy, dated July 28, 1841:

"I proposed to three of the British commanders I fell in with, to blockade these two stations, [Gallinas and New Cess,] instead of cruising so far off the coast. The anchorage is good and safe; and one vessel at each station could lie in such a position as to intercept any slaver coming in. The invariable reply to this proposition was:—'This is an unhealthy climate; we come out here to make prize-money; if a slaver is captured without her cargo, she is sent to Sierra Leone, where the expense of condemnation amounts to nearly the whole value of the vessel, which is the perquisite of those in the employ of the government at that place; and we, who have all the labor and exposure, get nothing; whereas, if we capture a vessel with slaves on board, we receive five pounds sterling a head for each of them, without any deduction. Therefore it is not our interest to capture these vessels without their cargoes.'"

During the trial of Zulueta for slave trading, in London, October,

1843, Captain Henry Worsley Hill, R. N., testified:

"Supposing a vessel and cargo to be of the value of £10,000, condemned in the Vice-admiralty Court, half the proceeds would go to the crown, and the other half would be divided among the captors, after all the expenses were paid; of which the admiral gets one-sixteenth, and the captor one-eighth of the remainder."—"I believe the proceeds of the *Augusta* amounted to somewhere about £3,800. Half of that would go to the crown. I have not got a sixpence. You would get one-eighth after the sixteenth? I am afraid there is some £300 to come out of it, for the expenses of the Privy Council Committee. Does it sometimes happen that the expenses swallow up the whole affair?—It does."

The *Augusta* had been taken by Captain Hill, without slaves on board, nearly three years before, and condemned at Sierra Leone without defence or delay.

The letter of Lieut. Bell, above quoted, was communicated to Lord Palmerston, by Mr. Stevenson, November 10, 1840. He states that the Gallinas and New Cess had been for some time blockaded. As to the main accusation, he says:

"I have to explain to you, that it is only since the passing of the act 2d and 3d Victoria, cap. 73, that there has existed any legal authority to condemn Portuguese ships detained for being equipped for the slave trade, and not having slaves actually on board; and therefore, until that act came into operation on the coast of Africa, Her Majesty's cruisers could not detain Portuguese slave vessels till they had actually taken their slaves on board: but with regard to Spanish vessels, the treaty of 1835 between Great Britain and Spain, gave to the mixed British and Spanish commissioners a power to

condemn slave vessels under the Spanish flag, if found equipped for the slave trade, even though they might have no slaves actually on board; and during the period which has elapsed since that treaty has been in operation, Her Majesty's cruisers have taken, and sent in for adjudication, 85 Spanish slavers, without slaves on board, and only 18 with slaves on board. And since the year 1835, Her Majesty's cruisers on the coast of Africa have detained, and sent in for adjudication, 14 Brazilian vessels without slaves on board, and only two with slaves."

This looks well. It proves that if British cruisers can catch a slaver going in, they will do it, lest they should not catch her at all. In this way, they secure some chance of getting "an eighth after the sixteenth." Still, it does not fully meet the point. Lieut. Bell proposed that, instead of cruising "outsight of land," in the hope of catching a slaver, they should blockade the slave trading ports, and thus stop the trade; for no slaver would attempt either to enter or to leave the Gallinas, while blockaded by a British cruiser. In the language of Mr. Wise, it would "prevent the shipping of slaves in Africa;" or at least, in that part of Africa. But stopping the trade would stop the prize-money altogether, and in every form. They would get neither their "five pounds a head," nor their "eighth" *minus* the charges. The answer is therefore incomplete; and the more so, because the blockade of Gallinas and New Cess was soon raised.

The Select Committee of the House of Commons, in their Report of August, 1842, quoted in a former number, in speaking of the suppression of the slave trade, says:

"Under this head, we would venture to recommend that none but the

swiftest vessels should be employed ; that some of the best prizes should be converted to the purposes of the service ; that steamers should be engaged in watching the intricacies of islands and the mouths of rivers ; that the system of paying by head-money, so unjust to gallant men—or perhaps, by bounty at all—should be reconsidered, and, possibly, replaced by higher pay and the prospect of promotion.”

They add, in a note :

“As an instance of the injustice of this system, we beg to refer to a case cited by Captain Denman, (Q. 7,099,) in which it appears that the capture of two vessels which would have held 700 slaves, was remunerated with no more than £576, because they were empty ; while that of a single vessel, of little more than half that tonnage, brought in £1,654, because she was full. Thus the least laborious and dangerous, as well as the least effective service, receives the highest reward.”

What Mr. Wise says of the “head-money” system, therefore, is not a mere gratuitous evil-surmising of his own. The tendency of the system certainly is, and has long been known and declared to be, such as he describes. How far the fidelity of British cruisers proves sufficient to withstand the temptation, is a matter of some uncertainty ; but it is certain that what Mr. Wise found “asserted positively” in Brazil, is to some extent believed by American traders to the coast of Africa. And the statement of Lord Palmerston, concerning the equipment treaties, effectually explodes the apology thought to be found in “the words of Mr. Slacum ;” inasmuch as the cargo, when sufficiently characteristic, *does* afford, and for some ten years past, *has* afforded, “just ground of capture,” even though there be no slaves on board.

THE LATE SLAVE TRADE DISCLOSURES.

NO. IV.

Indirect Slave Trading.

On this subject, Mr. Wise informs us that—

“The goods and credit of British manufacturers and merchants are liberally and indulgently extended to the Portuguese and Brazilian merchants in Brazil, on long time. The Portuguese and Brazilian merchants ship them in these vessels, chartered by the slave traders for the coast ; and in many cases a single vessel will take out the shipments of some ten or twenty various persons. They are not always loaded by the slave dealers themselves. Those persons who purchase of the British merchants the ‘goods fit for the coast,’ are mostly small dealers ; and the chief security which the British merchants have for payment is the successful sales of these goods in Africa. If they are captured or destroyed ; the British merchants suffer. The consequence, it is said, is, that the English cruisers will not capture or destroy them, because the blow is found to fall *upon the trade* and commerce of their own countrymen.”

It is said that there is not a merchant or dealer of any sort on this whole coast, from Para to Rio Grande, engaged in the trade between Brazil and Africa, who does not, directly, participate in the profit or loss of the foreign slave trade.

The *Intelligencer* adds :—“Mr. W. evidently thinks that Great Britain ought to prevent her manufacturers from supplying the particular goods that are used in the slave trade. How this is to be done, without establishing an inspection of all packages exported, we see not.”

Nor could it be done, even with such an inspection ; as will be manifest from a brief consideration of the course of African commerce.

In the first place, we must disabuse ourselves of the notion, that the slave trade is a business by itself, and that slave traders are a distinct class of men, who carry it on. The great house of Pedro Martinez of Cadez, with its associated house of Martinez & Co. of Havana, is one of the most extensive slave trading concerns in the world; perhaps the most extensive. Nearly all the slave traders at Gallinas, were, a few years since, agents of Martinez. This same concern carries on an immense business with England and the United States, in sugar, cochineal, bullion, and all kinds of West Indian, South American and Mexican produce. So also, in Brazil, where the trade is neither unlawful nor disreputable. Nobody there abstains from it, or from dealing with those concerned in it, from any fear of the law, scruples of conscience, or regard for character. It is as freely mixed up with all business between Brazil and Africa, as the trade in molasses with business between the United States and the West Indies. If you trade to Brazil at all, you must trade with a slave trader, or with some one who deals freely with slave traders.

We must also banish the notion, that there is any kind of goods which is used only in the slave trade, and not in honest commerce. "The particular goods that are used in the slave trade," are the same that are used in bartering for palm oil, camwood, ivory, and other African produce.—Goods sold in Africa are usually sold on credit. The native trader, for the accommodation of his country customers, insists on having a complete assortment of "coast goods"—so much rum, so much gunpowder, so much tobacco, and the like, all in due proportion. For this assortment, he agrees to pay, oil, dye-stuffs, slaves, or any thing else for which he can barter his goods. At

Gallinas, the ship is obliged to sell for cash or bills of exchange, to European factors, who sell to native traders, and receive scarce any thing but slaves in payment. Where the slave trade has been banished by British and American settlements, the payments are made in oil, ivory, and other articles of lawful commerce. But on all the rest of the coast, payments are made in slaves or other articles indifferently, as the parties can agree.

"Coast goods" are such necessities, comforts or luxuries of African life, or implements of industry, as Africa requires from Europe or America. By offering them for sale, the African is stimulated to do whatever is necessary to obtain them. Selling such goods for any product of honest industry, therefore, has a direct tendency to promote honest industry, and all the virtues of civilization; so that the barter of honest goods for honest goods, even at a slave trading port, is mutually beneficial.

It happens not unfrequently, that a ship, before her voyage is ended, finds herself short of some article necessary to complete her assortment. She must buy of some ship that has a surplus, or of some trader on shore. The cotton cloth shipped at Baltimore and sold at the Old Calabar river for ivory, is ready to be purchased by a Brazilian who needs it to barter for slaves. Thus honest commerce with Africa cannot be carried on without incidentally furnishing facilities for the slave trade.

There is a striking illustration of this subject in the letter of Lieut. Bell to the Secretary of the Navy, of July 28, 1840. He says:

"Most of the slavers sent to Sierra Leone have such articles on board as are used in trafficking for slaves. When the vessels are condemned, these articles are sold at public auction—are purchased by an English-

man there, who is said to be the agent of Pedro Blanco, the great slave dealer at Gallinas. Whether this is the case or not, is of little consequence; they are put on board of an English cutter belonging to this man, who carries them to Gallinas, and lands them at his pleasure. This is well known to every person at Sierra Leone: and, in conversation with the governor, when he made some remarks on the shameful use of our flag in this trade, I spoke to him on the subject; stated that the slave trade was encouraged and abetted by such proceedings under the very eye of his government. He said he was sensible of it; but, as this was a legal traffic, he could not prevent it."

As stated in a former article, this was communicated to Lord Palmerston; but his lordship, in his reply, makes no allusion to this part of the letter. The same practice, and even that of selling condemned slave ships, directly to slave traders, at public auction under authority of the British government, is expressly acknowledged in the Report to the House of Commons of August, 1842, repeatedly quoted in former articles. That report concludes, that any legislation designed to prevent the practice, would be wholly ineffectual; as it would only cause the vessel or goods

to pass through the hands of a secret agent or two, before reaching those of the slave trader; while such legislation might seriously embarrass the operations of honest commerce.

In view of these facts, it is plain that an American or English trader may indirectly render important facilities for the slave trade, and derive a profit from doing it, without violating any existing law, or any law that ought to exist; and even without doing any thing morally wrong. That trade is so mixed up with the general business of the world, that it can derive facilities from the most innocent commercial transactions. *And here lies the great danger.* British and American traders of no conscience can enter into the business of furnishing indirect facilities with all their hearts, and carry it on to almost any extent, without the possibility of conviction. They may be as guilty as any direct slave trader, and yet no one can prove that they have done any thing illegal, or any thing morally wrong. There is reason to fear that this is done to an immense extent; that, while the Spaniards, Portuguese and Brazilians buy and transport the slaves, Americans furnish and sail the ships which have no slaves on board, and British subjects furnish the capital, and negotiate the exchanges.

(To be concluded in our next.)

The late Daniel Waldo, of Worcester, Mass.

By reference to the receipts in this number, it will be seen that we have received the munificent bequest of \$10,000 left by our late highly esteemed friend and patron DANIEL WALDO, of Worcester, Mass.

We with pleasure insert the following memoir of him:

"Died suddenly, in this town, on the morning of the 9th instant, the Hon. DANIEL WALDO. Few men have been taken from this community who were more generally known, and more universally respected; and no one whose death

will be more extensively, and deeply, and permanently deplored.

"Mr. Waldo was born in Boston, on the 20th day of January, 1763. His early education was in the public schools of that town, and under the domestic guidance and instruction of exemplary and pious parents. His father was, there, an eminent and successful merchant, at the breaking out of the American Revolution; but devoted in heart and mind to the cause of civil and religious freedom, upon the occlusion of the port of Boston, by the British, he sought protection for his family in the country, and subsequently settled with them

and resumed mercantile business in the town of Worcester. Here, the late Mr. Waldo completed his education in his father's counting-house, and on arriving at age, became his partner in business, and afterwards succeeded to the property and the management of this extensive importing and trading concern. With what scrupulous integrity his business was conducted for more than forty years; with what considerations of regard to his customers, and of accommodation to the wants and interests of the public, he directed his arrangements, his eminent success and the undoubting and unabating confidence of the community, through this long period of time, will bear witness. And, when at last he retired from an active participation in commerce and trade, his punctuality and precision, his justice and liberality, his personal attention and courtesy of manner, were remembered and referred to, as a model and example for instruction and encouragement to the young, and for imitation by all.

"More than twenty years have now elapsed, since this distinguished merchant voluntarily relinquished to younger men, whose character he had assisted to form, and whose worthiness he approved, the enjoyment of his mercantile establishment, and the influence of his personal patronage. But in retiring from the cares of business, he did not yield to indolence and indulgence. His counting-room continued to be his chosen and daily resort for informal and free communication and intercourse with his acquaintance and friends, for attention to the management of his ample property, and for the occupation of his time in reading, and the bestowment of his interest and thoughts upon the welfare of others. The regularity of his habit in passing the street, to and from this accustomed place, was indeed so great as almost to mark the precision of the diurnal hour. In whatever affected the peace and good order of society, and the prosperity and happiness of his county, he ever took a lively concern. His interest in all well directed efforts for the promotion of the moral and social condition of the ignorant and the destitute of his fellow men, was active and efficient, and his benefactions and charities were munificent and free, as they were discriminating and unostentatious. *Numerous are the objects of public benevolence, which have cause to rejoice in the fullness of his bounty;—and many—more than the world will ever know—are the hearts of private sufferers, who are, unconsciously, his debtors, for the relief and comfort which they will never have opportunity to acknowledge. The prayers and the blessings of the poor did, indeed, follow him; but who shall speak of the*

deeds of kindness which an habitual charity was continually, silently and secretly, dispensing to those whose delicacy and sensitiveness would permit no utterance to their destitution?

"In the progress, rapid growth, and assured prosperity of the town of his residence, to which his early industry and enterprise in business, and his attention, advice, and use of wealth, in riper years, had so largely contributed, Mr. Waldo, to the latest day of his life, felt and expressed, in an especial manner, the liveliest interest. The Temple for Public Worship, which his liberality erected;—the cemetery grounds, the bestowment of his bounty, where, in the fragrance of nature, in beautiful congruity with the untainted simplicity, sincerity and consistency of his character, now repose his mortal remains, are among the visible memorials which speak to the heart, of his sympathy with the highest concerns of all.

"Nor was the sphere of his influence and usefulness confined to the limits, ample as they were, of his own personal considerations and desires. Although always unpretending himself, wholly unambitious of public honors, and retiring and shrinking, as it were, from the unenviable notoriety of mere popular favor, yet, such was the public regard for his patriotism and practical wisdom, his integrity, firmness, and fidelity to every obligation of duty, that, in one of the darkest periods of the Republic, during the war, in 1814, he was sought out, to take part, and give directions to one of the most fearfully momentous measures of the time. Whatever was *then thought*, or may *now be deemed* the occasion, or the fitness of that act of legislation, which gave the sanction of Massachusetts to the HARTFORD CONVENTION, the late Mr. Waldo but *obeyed the injunctions of the Government*, in receiving his appointment, as a member. No man entertained a loftier patriotism, a higher sense of the responsibility of public trusts, a deeper reverence for the Constitution, a firmer attachment to the confederated Union, and none had more at stake, in the peace, safety, and returning prosperity of the country. It is but justice to say, that the strongest objections to this questionable proceeding, and the liveliest apprehensions of its disastrous consequences, were, in a great degree, allayed, in the minds of its most strenuous opponents, by confidence in the character of the men, to whom, happily, was committed its direction and control. Indeed, no higher tribute could be paid to their virtue, than was rendered, at the time, by a venerable, experienced and distinguished statesman, of stern Republican principles, (the elder Gov. Lincoln,) who, when informed of the names of the selected Delegates to the Convention,

exclaimed with fervency, 'Thank Heaven! then all is safe. With such men as George Cabot and Daniel Waldo, *nil erit detrimenti Reipublicæ*;'—no harm can come to the Republic.

"As a proof how well sustained, by the community in which he lived, was this sentiment of trust and confidence towards Mr. Waldo, he was, afterwards, in the year 1816, elected by his fellow citizens of the county of Worcester, to a seat in the Senate of Massachusetts, and again re-elected in the two following years. His characteristic punctuality and fidelity, *here*, also, distinguished the discharge of the duties of his station, and made him one of the most useful and justly esteemed members of that body. The love of domestic quiet and enjoyment, and his earnest desire for retirement, in 1819, resisted the wishes of his friends for his longer continuance in public office, and he respectfully, but resolutely, declined a renomination.

"The name of WALDO is intimately associated with many of the religious and charitable institutions of the country. There

will be a more appropriate occasion and place, in which to treat of the personal participation of our departed friend, in this connexion. Deeply imbued with religious faith, and feelingly impressed with a sense of all Christian obligation, in the liberality of a cultivated and enlightened mind, he devised things *liberally*, and with a view to extended good. He looked far beyond *sect or party*, and strove to learn from the instruction of his great teacher and master, how to regard duty to the whole race of his fellow men, and the aim of his life was its faithful and acceptable performance.

"Thus has passed the long and useful life of this good man. He has been borne to the tomb, full of years, and in honored remembrance. The tears of bereaved relatives and friends bedew the green sod of his fresh made grave, but the deeds of public munificence and of private benevolence which he has wrought, will survive all temporary affliction, in the cherished memory and lasting influence of his exemplary character and virtues."

[From the N. Y. Commercial Advertiser.]

New York Family for Liberia.

NEW YORK, Oct. 24, 1845.

As there is an expedition for Liberia fitting out from Baltimore and Norfolk, by the American Colonization Society, to sail in a few days with a goodly number of emigrants and also several missionaries for their different stations, making it of much interest to the friends of African colonization, I feel it a privilege to make a remark or two respecting a family which left this city yesterday morning *via* railroad for Baltimore, to join the ship "*Romanke*, Captain Hanna," bound to Monrovia, Liberia. The family consists of Mr. Sheldon and wife, each about 50 years of age, Mr. Lowry and wife, each about 25 years of age, son-in-law and daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Sheldon, and three fine, plump, bright-eyed, clean-faced, promising children, the eldest 5 years of age, all of them just as *black* as Mr. Lowry and his wife, (no mixed blood there,) who, with their father and mother, Mr. and Mrs. Sheldon, are of the pure African jet black.

They were all well clad in good, substantial garments, and not out at the elbows, knees or heels, and not slipshod. They are from Medina, Orleans county, N. Y. They are farmers, and the women are good scholars. Lowry can write; I saw him sign a receipt for some money handed him to defray expenses on the way. Upon being asked what or who induced them to go to Liberia, they said they had read and obtained the necessary information—particularly the

letter of George Seymour (one of Governor Robert's Council) to his former mistress in Connecticut, a daughter of Anson G. Phelps, Esq., the well known friend of the African, and President of the New York State Colonization Society, which letter you as well as many other editors published some time since. They say they are going into a new wilderness country, and mean to apply the axe to the root of the tree and make themselves good homes, and I think they will do it. Lowry appears to be a shrewd, energetic man. Mr. Sheldon has the appearance of a good substantial farmer, not unlike our good New England or Western New York farmers, and I have no doubt they will give a "good report of the land," and be the means of inducing many others to follow. In addition to all I have said, Mr. and Mrs. S. are Methodist professors, and Mr. and Mrs. L. Presbyterian professors of the religion of Jesus Christ, and have their credentials of being in good and regular standing in the church of which they are members. If we could add 100 such families to this, well might the sons of Ham begin to "stretch forth their hands unto God." I could say much more in behalf of this family, but I should occupy too much of your paper, and will close by saying that I have seen several letters from persons of respectability in Medina which fully confirm all that I have said, and are at your service for a perusal.

A FRIEND TO THE COLORED MAN.

Our late Expedition for Liberia.

THE fine ship Roanoke, of Baltimore, chartered by this Society for the purpose, sailed from Norfolk, Va., for Monrovia, Liberia, on the 5th of November, with one hundred and eighty-seven emigrants and a large supply of provisions, goods, &c.

Of these emigrants, one hundred and six are from King George County, Va., liberated by the will of the late Nathaniel H. Hooe: ten were from Prince William County, Va., liberated by the Rev. John Towles: five were from Petersburg, liberated by the Rev. Mr. Gibson: seventeen were from Essex County, of whom ten were liberated by the will of the late Edward Rowzee, five by Miss Harriet F. C. Rowzee, and one by the heirs of Edward Rowzee: eleven were from Frederick County, Va., liberated by Moncure Robinson, Esq., of Philadelphia: fourteen were from Shepherdstown and vicinity, Va., some of whom were free, and others were liberated for the purpose of allowing them to accompany their friends to Liberia: thirteen were from Halifax, N. C., liberated by the will of Thomas W. Lassiter: two were from Fredericksburg, Va., liberated by the will of the late William Bridges of Stafford County, Va., one was a free man from Petersburg, Va.: one, also free, from Charleston, S. C., and seven from Medina, Orange County, N. Y.

Many of them were persons of much more than ordinary fitness for citizens of Liberia. Many of them could read and write, and had been accustomed to taking care of themselves and their interests, and were industrious and prudent. Great liberality has been shown by the masters who

have voluntarily set their servants free that they might go and improve their condition and their children's in Liberia.

The whole company were well supplied with provisions, &c., for the passage and for six months after they arrive in the colony. Nearly the whole of this was done at the expense of the Society; only two of them having paid the full price. Many of them could pay nothing at all; and for others only a part was paid.

On their arrival in Liberia, we furnish them houses to live in for six months, give them a piece of land for their own, supply them with medicine and medical attendance when they are sick, and with all things necessary for their comfort during their acclimation. This gives them a fair chance for health and happiness.

Upwards of seventy who had applied to go in the Roanoke, were left behind. Some of them found they could not get ready in time. Legal difficulties were thrown in the way of others. One family would not go because the husband and father had not been able to raise money to buy himself. While for some, we could not afford to pay the expenses, at the present time.

We are now making arrangements to send an expedition from New Orleans, to sail in January, with emigrants from Kentucky, Tennessee and other Southwestern states. Those of our friends living in those states will do us a favor by notifying any persons who contemplate going to Africa, of the proposed vessel.

Our friends will also perceive the necessity under which we are for an increase of the means of sending out emigrants.

Liberia and the British--Dr. Hodgkin's Letter.

IN another column will be found a letter from Dr. Hodgkin, of London, relating to our Liberia affairs. He seems to think that we have not fairly represented England in the matter. Perhaps this may be the fact. At any rate we are glad of the opportunity of

letting him speak for himself and for his country on the subject. He is a gentleman of high character, of enlarged benevolence, and of comprehensive knowledge. We are happy in being able to let our readers see the sentiments which he entertains on a sub-

ject in which they are so much interested.

They will not fail to remark one thing in his letter, viz: that he says nothing at all leading us to suppose that the "John Seys" was seized on the ground that she was suspected of being a *slaver*. What propriety, therefore, was there in sending

her to be tried as a *slaver* in the court at Sierra Leone? What propriety is there in their detaining her there several months, under pretense that some important witnesses are absent? Why do they not at once avow the real ground on which she was seized, and stand by it with all its consequences?

To our Friends and Patrons.

Our readers are aware how anxious we have been to secure the balance of the territory lying between Cape Mount and Cape Palmas, and how earnestly we have begged for \$20,000 to purchase it. We have now the pleasure of informing our friends and patrons, that in Kentucky \$5,000 have been subscribed towards this object: and also that *thirteen* gentlemen in other states

have each pledged us \$1,000 toward the \$15,000 subscription. These sums are all *conditional* on our making up the whole amount. *Two names more are wanting!* Two persons have it now in their power to secure to us \$20,000! We entreat those whom the Lord has blessed with the good things of this life to think of this urgent call.

[From the Louisville Democrat.]

Kentucky in Africa.

At a meeting of citizens in the 1st Presbyterian church on Thursday evening, the 2d inst., to consult upon the best measures to advance the cause of colonization, Mr. W. Richardson was chosen chairman, and W. F. Bullock, Esq., secretary.

Mr. Cowan, the agent of the colonization society, gave a full statement of his agency in this state in reference to the plan of Kentucky to have a colony of her own in Liberia; and of his success in raising funds to purchase 40 miles square of territory in that country; whereupon the following resolutions were offered and passed unanimously:

1. *Resolved*, That the plan of having territory within the bounds of Liberia, on the western coast of Africa, to be called Kentucky, that our free colored population may have a country to emigrate to, and enjoy their freedom under an administration of their own color, meets with our cordial approbation.

2. *Resolved*, That as this plan of having a colony of Kentucky Africans planted within the bounds of the Commonwealth of Liberia, has originated in a benevolent regard for their interests, civil, social and moral, it is, in our judgment, the duty of our free colored population to inform themselves of the privileges and advantages they will enjoy by citizenship in Kentucky in Africa, and we would counsel them to emigrate there.

3. *Resolved*, That as \$700 is now needed (\$165 having been raised in the city) to fill up the subscription of \$5,000, the sum required to purchase the territory, it is highly important that this city and the county of Jefferson should raise this sum, and thereby show to their fellow citizens in different parts of the state, who have contributed to this object, that we are interested in carrying out this good and great enterprise.

4. *Resolved*, That Messrs. Beattie, Glover, Ranney, Bucklin, Bayless,

Pettit, J. S. Morris, Throgmorton, J. S. Lithgow, J. Rust and D. M'Alister, be a committee to render to Mr. Cowan such assistance as he shall need to raise funds for the cause in this city.

5. *Resolved*, That the proceedings

of this meeting be signed by the Chairman and Secretary, and be published in the different papers in the city.

W. RICHARDSON,
Chairman.

W. F. BULLOCK, Sec'y.

Items of Intelligence.

On the 17th May, at Marshall, a young man about twenty-one years of age, by the name of Frank Butler, in company with several others who were diving for oysters in the Junk river, was struck by a shark. He survived only long enough to come up to the surface, and tell that he was hurt. A comrade pulled him into their canoe when he expired.

THE two seamen landed here by captain Lideel's sloop (English) are both dead. One cut his throat a few evenings ago in a paroxysm of *mania potu* it is said, and the other died of the fever.

THE British coaxed ten of the settlers to go to Jamaica two or three years ago, and one of them writes back to his friends in Liberia—"You who have your thatched

houses, make yourselves happy, and try to rear your colony in the fear of God, and improve your societies: for this is the most abominable place I ever saw. By the help of the Lord I hope to reach home some day. This is a miserable and adulterous hole."

A Boa Constrictor was captured near Old Field settlement, Messurado river, the stomach of which contained a full grown deer, horns and all. The natives were preparing to feast upon his snakeship, the carcass of which they described as "big hog meat."

A boat belonging to the Water Witch by some means went on shore a few days ago at Little Bassa, and was knocked to pieces. She had been in chase of a slaver.

Receipts of the American Colonization Society,

From the 22d October, to the 22d November, 1845.

By Rev. A. M. Cowan:—(donations reported in gross in last No. of the Repository.)			
Scott Co.—Rev. F. G. Strahan...	5 00		
Harrison Co.—G. H. Perrin, \$50, E. F. Easton, \$10, Jo. Carr, \$5, Theo. Walker, \$3, Joseph Wasson, \$2.....	70 00		
Bourbon Co.—John King, \$20, John H. Jones, and Wm. Jones, each \$5.....	30 00		
Fayette Co.—Samuel Laird, \$100, R. Pindell, Edward Oldham, Col. Robert Innes, each \$30 to constitute themselves life members, Solomon Vanmeter, \$20, Isaac C. Vanmeter, \$15, John W. Overturn, \$5, Charles Patrick, \$1.....	231 00		
Madison Co.—H. T. Terrill.....	20 00		
Garrard Co.—Moses Collier.....	5 00		
Lincon Co.—Rev. S. S. McRoberts.	5 00		
Boyle Co.—John R. Ford, M. G. Youce, each \$20, R. Montgomery, and James L. Crawford, each \$10, F. S. Read, Wm. W.			
McDowell, Willis Grimes, and A. D. Meyers, each \$5.....		80 00	
Shelby Co.—John Crawford, L. W. Duprey, John Robinson, Mrs. R. Beattie, Mrs. Jane J. Logan, each \$5.....		25 00	
Covington—J. M. Preston, \$30 to constitute himself a life member, R. S. Brush, Wm. Ernst, M. M. Benton, A. L. Z. Grier, Jno. K. McNuckle, H. J. Greesback, each \$5, Go. C. Tarwin, \$1.		61 00	
Louisville—John L. Martin, \$30 to constitute himself a life member, Abraham Hite, and D. B. Allen, each \$20, Willis Ranney, Wm. F. Pettit, James Speed, Prentis & Weissinger, William Richardson, Dr. Sam'l B. Richardson, Wm. E. Glover, W. H. Field, Wm. Miller, George C. Gwathney, Rev. E. P. Humphry, Samuel Messick, Mrs. W. L. Breckenridge, Mrs. Amanda Hall, Miss Mary Hall, Mrs. McFarland, Mrs. Eliza Cassadey, Miss Mary Ann McNutt,			

each \$10, Rev. W. W. Hill, Wm. Kendrick, W. F. Bullock, James Fulton, Thos. E. Wilson, A. P. Starbird, A. Peter, Sam'l Russell, Wallace & Lithgow, R. J. Ward, C. Coleman, Isaac Everitt, Henry Pirth, P. Butler, John Watson, J. W. Kalfers, Thomas S. Foreman, Alex. Harbeson, Rupert & Linderberge, John S. Morris, J. G. Praigg & Co., W. B. Clifton, P. B. Atwood, W. H. Walker, H. Parmelee, L. Ruffner, Jacob Bickwith, Hamilton Pope, D. & J. Wright & Co., Curran Pope, D. Beattie, Logan McKnight, J. M. Rutherford, R. A. Robinson, James Low, W. S. Pilcher, R. G. Cutter & Co., Emory Low, Charles J. Clark, Mrs. J. Hughes, each \$5, Dr. L. Powell, \$3, William Anderson, B. O. Davis, Mrs. Robert Steel, Mrs. Apperson, each \$2, Rev. James Craig, Mrs. W. H. Pope, cash, each \$1, Louisville Colonization Society, by S. Casadey, treasurer, \$58 25, J. P. Curtis & Co., exchange on uncurrent money, \$1 77..... 524 02

OHIO.

Harrison—Dr. Crookshanks..... 5 00

INDIANA.

REPOSITORY.—*South Hanover*—Thomas W. Hynes..... 6 00

Total.....\$1,067 02

VERMONT.

By Dea. Samuel Tracy :—
Strafford—Hon. J. H. Harris, cash, Dr. Pierce, each \$1, cash, 12½ cts. 3 12½
Royallton—Wm. Skinner, \$1, Dea. Joiner, 50 cts..... 1 50
Williamstown—Cong. Society.... 5 00
St. Johnsbury—J. P. Fairbanks, \$15, Luther Clark, \$5, J. H. Worcester, \$3, Erastus Fairbanks, \$10, Hiram Knap, \$2, Thad. Fairbanks, \$15, Moses Kittredge, \$5, Horace Fairbanks, \$3, Ephraim Jewett, \$2..... 60 00
Castleton—Dea. Cheaver..... 1 00
Vergennes—E. D. Woodbridge... 2 00
Enosburg—Contribution by Congregational Society..... 9 50
Putney—Hon. P. White, annual subscription..... 10 00
Brookfield—Capt. A. Edson, \$5, Maj. John Wheatley, \$5, Maj. D. Colt, Dea. S. Griswold, Mrs. Polly Paine, J. Edson, Capt. Z. Bigelow, each \$1, Mrs. E. B. Lyman, \$1 50, E. Ellis, esq., Simon Colton, esq., Captain R.

Peck, Luther Wheatley, esq., each \$2, Z. Bigelow, Mrs. Jemima Freeman, Homer Hatch, esq., John Bigelow, Lem. Pope, Capt. J. S. Allen, Ariel Burnham, Phineas Kelley, ea. 50 cts., Sarah Graves, J. C. Wheatley, C. A. Stratton, each 25 cts.... 29 25

Montpelier—Subscription, \$16, Contribution, \$6 36..... 22 36

Craftsbury—Hon. S. C. Crafts... 1 00

Burlington—Rev. J. K. Converse. 5 00

149 73

MASSACHUSETTS.

Worcester—Legacy of the late Daniel Waldo.....10,000 00

RHODE ISLAND.

Providence—H. N. Slater, esq., \$100, Thos. M. Burgess, mayor, \$10, Robert H. Ives, \$20, A friend to the colored man, \$20, Joseph Carpenter, \$5, John C. Brown, \$10, Wm. G. Goddard, \$10, Thos. Harkness, \$10, Thos. J. Stead, \$5, cash, \$1, John H. Mason, an. subscription, \$5, Z. Allen, \$5, Ed. Carrington, \$10. 211 00

CONNECTICUT.

Guilford—Mrs. Nathan'l Griffin, to constitute the Rev. E. Edwin Hall a life member of the A. C. S. 30 00

NEW YORK.

Suffolk Co.—Amount received in full of legacy left by John Rogers, dec'd, per Messrs. Foot & Davies..... 332 10

NEW JERSEY.

Greenwich—Collection in Presby. church, D. X. Junkins, pastor, per J. Carter, Treasurer Board of Deacons..... 25 00

VIRGINIA.

King George Co.—Daniel Coakley, executor of Nath. H. Hooe, late of said Co., per Wm. R. Mason, esq., toward carrying to Liberia, slaves liberated by said Hooe's will..... 3,750 00

By Rev. J. B. Pinney :—

Norfolk—Collection in Pres. Lecture-room, \$15, Mrs. Mary J. Payne, \$10, Mrs. Com. C. K. Stribling, \$20, cash, \$5..... 50 00

Waynesburg—Collection in Pres. church..... 5 00

Lexington—Collection in Presby. church, \$33 31, Col. S. McDowal Reid, \$30..... 63 31

Lynchburg—Rev. Wm. McKinckle, \$5, Samuel McCorckle, \$10, Charles L. Mosby, esq., \$10, Mr. Earley, \$5..... 30 00

Richmond—A lady, \$1, Per Dr. Gil-

dersleve from Concord church, \$10, Mr. Gordon and Mrs. E. M. Atkisson, \$3, Dr. Plumer and Mrs. and Miss Storrs, \$2, Collection in Trinity M. E. church, \$13 50, Fred. Bransford, esq., \$50, J. C. Hobson, esq., \$50, N. Mills, esq., \$50, Miss S. Bruce, \$50, Rev. Robt. Ryland, \$50, Wm. H. McFarland, \$50, Wm. Barrett, \$25, Samuel Reeve, \$10, Jas. Cas-
 kie, \$10, R. C. Wortham, \$5, John Caskie, \$5, John B. Morton, \$5, Lewis Webb, \$5, J. L. Bacon, \$5, Samuel Putney, \$5, Hancock Lee, \$5, W. F. Taylor, \$5, cash, \$5, Miss A. Col-
 man, \$2, A friend, \$3, W. P. Struther, \$5, cash, \$5, cash, \$5, James Gardiner, \$5, W. S. Donan, \$3, Wm. H. Hubbard, on land subscription, \$100, H. J. Miller, \$5, cash, \$4..... 704 81

Petersburg—A. G. Mellwaine, \$100, DeArcy Paul, \$100, David Dunlop, \$50, John Steven-
 son, \$20, Ladies' Sewing Soc., 1st Pres. church, \$20, Collec-
 tion in 1st Pres. church, \$53 20, Judge May, cash, Wm. Craw-
 ley, Moses Paul, John E. Le-
 moine, James P. Smith, Jose-
 phus Hurt, each \$10, Robert
 Ritchie, cash, Rev. S. Slaughter,
 cash, Daniel Lyon, E. P. Nash,
 Mrs. Dunn, Edward Osborne,
 W. S. Simpson, each \$5, cash,
 \$3, cash, \$3, cash, \$3, cash, A.
 Head, Collin Stokes, cash, cash,
 each \$1, Mr. Burd, \$3, Rev.
 Mr. Taylor, 50 cents..... 475 70

Lewisburg—Female Colonization
 Society, by the hand of Mrs.
 Gurley..... 8 75

Fredericksburg—R. C. L. Moncure,
 for passage, support, &c., of 2
 emigrants in the Roanoke..... 140 00

5,227 57

NORTH CAROLINA.

By Rev. J. B. Pinney:—
Raleigh—Mrs. Devereaux, J. R.
 Devereaux, & Judge Cameron,
 each \$10, C. Dewey, J. B. Free-
 man, John Primrose, and W. R.
 Gales, each \$5, John H. Bryan,
 and Wm. F. Collins, each \$3,
 Wm. Peck, and J. Brunn, each
 \$2, Wm. J. Clark, E. Colburn,
 J. H. Snow, and J. M. Tours,
 each \$1, Wm. Pierce, \$4..... 68 00

Fayetteville—Collection in Pres.
 church, \$17 27, Collection in
 Pres. church, \$13 87½, Rev.
 Jarvis B. Buston, \$10, James
 Kyle, esq., \$5, J. C. Dobbin,

\$5, Jonathan Evans, \$3, John
 Smith, \$3, H. Lilley, \$3, Jas.
 R. Gee, D. McGee, C. B. Mal-
 lett, W. Husk, W. McIntyre,
 Henry Branson, each \$1..... 66 14

Halifax—From Jos. J. Bell, toward
 the passage of 14 emigrants.... 200 00

334 14

ALABAMA.

By Rev. J. B. Pinney:—
Mobile—Mrs. Dorsey..... 25 00

MISSISSIPPI.

Lewisville—Mrs. A. G. Gadden,
 toward the \$1,000 due from le-
 gacy of her husband..... 900 00

KENTUCKY.

By Rev. A. M. Cowan:—
Nelson Co.—Haden Edwards, \$20,
 E. B. Miles, Dr. A. W. Hynes,
 each \$10, Spencer Miner, W.
 M. Powell, Mrs. Mary E. Dun-
 can, and Wm. Bush, each \$5,
 W. B. Herrin, \$3, Thos. Dun-
 can, \$2, Jacob Ponce, Green
 Duncan, Butler Rainy, James
 Allen, William Minor, Rev. J.
 Atkinson, each \$1, Henry Rus-
 sell, and John Collins, each
 \$1 50, Mrs. L. E. Atkinson,
 Miss Brookins, and W. Beard,
 each 50 cents, cash from 3 per-
 sons, each 25c., 4th July collec-
 tion in Big Spring church, \$7. 83 25

Washington Co.—Judge P. Book-
 er, and H. McElroy, each \$10,
 J. H. Cunningham, \$5, J. R.
 Hughes and wife, \$2, A. Mc-
 Elroy, J. C. Cozine, J. A. Gai-
 ther, and G. W. Taylor, each
 \$1, J. P. Calhoun, 50c., Thos.
 Montgomery, and W. Platt,
 each 25 cents..... 32 00

Marion Co.—Sam'l McElroy, Ste-
 phen Purdy, David Philips,
 each \$5, L. Edelen, Dr. James
 Fleece, each \$3, Mrs. Roza
 Gibbs, Elias Shackelford, W.
 Newbolt, W. H. Burnett, Ja-
 cob Rider, Thos. H. Best, Miss
 S. Scantland, each \$1, R. H.
 Fogle, J. C. McElroy, Hugh
 Maxwell, and W. F. Scantland,
 each \$2, B. Edmonds, cash,
 each 50 cents, Bradfordsville
 Colonization Society, \$18 75.. 55 75

Green Co.—John Barrett, \$5, W.
 F. Barrett, \$4, David Lydner,
 Samuel F. Brown, each \$2, R.
 S. Tate, J. G. Barrett, D. B.
 Moore, R. L. Moore, and R. O.
 Hundly, each \$1, Mr. Harden,
 and W. A. Cheatham, each 25
 cents..... 18 50

Barren Co.—D. R. Young, Rich-
 ard Garnett, B. B. Crump, each
 \$5, Dr. J. Westerfield, \$3, T..

J. Helm, Judge C. Tompkins, D. M. Payne, R. B. Hall, W. B. Kilgore, S. Jordan, each \$2, H. Moss, \$2 50, W. H. McMurray, E. M. Everett, Rev. A. S. Howsley, Rev. James Penn, J. D. Welsh, R. D. Macepin, J. D. Crosby, J. W. Owens, B. N. Crump, J. G. Davis, J. S. Moss, and J. M. Doty, each \$1, two ladies, each 50 cts., W. Robertson, F. Little, J. Smith, each 50 cents, cash, 25 cents.....	47 25
<i>Lincoln Co.</i> —J. C. Smith, L. D. Good, J. Magill, B. McKenney, Mrs. E. A. Briggs, R. H. Givins, Allen Logan, Telman Hocker, George Dunlap, Cyreel Logan, each \$5, D. H. Harbenson, \$1.	51 00
	287 75
OHIO.	
<i>Canal Fulton</i> —Rev. G. Denfore..	2 00
<i>Xenia</i> —Female Col. Society, per James Gowdy, treasurer Green County Col. Society.....	30 00
	32 00
INDIANA.	
<i>Princeton</i> —Mrs. Jane Kell, \$40, which with \$100 contributed last Spring, is to constitute herself and Mrs. Jane McMaster and Mrs. Ann Fleming, life members of the A. C. S.....	40 00
By Rev. B. T. Kavanaugh:—	
<i>Greensburg, Decatur Co</i> —B. Cobb, Rev. Jas. Havens, Wm. Wert, James Woodfile, J. Grover, Mrs. Davidson, each \$1, Mrs. Grover, 50 cents, Mrs. Hottgekiss, 25 cents, Mrs. Thompson, 25 cents, James Freeman, \$1, Jno. F. Raszele, 50 cents, Public collection, \$2 95.....	11 45
<i>Indianapolis</i> —Collection in Meth. Congregation, \$7 62½, Mr. Dougherty, 50 cents.....	8 12
	59 57
ILLINOIS.	
<i>Winchester</i> —Scott County Col. Society, per Porter Clay, esq..	5 00
Total Contributions..	\$17,618 68
FOR REPOSITORY.	
<i>NEW HAMPSHIRE.</i> — <i>Hanover</i> —Mills Olcott's estate, to Jan., '46.	5 50
<i>VERMONT.</i> —By Dea. Sam'l Tracy— <i>Windsor</i> —A. Wardner, \$2. <i>Putney</i> —Dea. Reynolds, \$1 50. <i>St. Johnsbury</i> —Dr. C. Jewett, to Jan., '46, \$7 50. <i>South Strafford</i> —John Reynolds, 75 cents. <i>Strafford</i> —Deacon P. Walker, \$1 50. <i>Norwich</i> —Dr. S. Converse, \$1 50. <i>Ludlow</i> —A. B. Hough, Dea. L. Ross, Surry	
Ross, esq., Asel Miller, Hon. R. Washburn, each \$1 50. <i>Brandon</i> —Gen. D. W. C. Clark, \$7 50, to Jan., '46. <i>Enosburg</i> —Dea. George Adams, \$1 50. <i>Montpelier</i> —H. S. Prentis, to date, \$3, Hon. J. Loomis's estate, to balance account, \$4....	38 25
<i>MASSACHUSETTS.</i> —By Dr. Tenney— <i>North Chester</i> —John J. Cook, \$1 50. <i>Springfield</i> —Dea. Daniel Bontecon, \$1 50, Thos. Bond, for '44 and '45, \$3, Mrs. Prudence Howe, in full to 1846, \$4, R. A. Chapman, esq., Willis Phelps, Samuel Reynolds, George Merriam, Simon Smith, Edmund Palmer, Wilson, Chase & Co., A. Huntington, P. Kendall, Elijah Blake, each \$1 50, W. H. Bowdoin, to Jan., '46, \$3. <i>Southbridge</i> —John Fortune, \$1 50. <i>South Brookfield</i> —James Brewer, 2d in full, \$1.	30 50
<i>PENNSYLVANIA.</i> — <i>Philadelphia</i> —Michael Baker, for '45, \$2, Jas. Bayard, for '44 and '45, \$4, Elijah Brown, Gov. E. Coles, S. Colwell, Jno. Elliott, Jno. Hockley, Moses Johnson, Isaac C. Jones, Dr. C. R. King, J. F. Learning, C. E. Lex, George Melton, Dr. Sam'l Moore, Wm. Parker, Dr. J. M. Paul, S. H. Perkins, James S. Pringle, Wm. Primrose, Michael Reed, B. W. Richards, A. B. Rockey, John Roset, J. M. Sellars, Mrs. Spohn, A. Symington, Josiah White, Dr. George B. Wood, each \$2, (the foregoing payments are to January, 1846.).....	58 00
<i>VIRGINIA.</i> — <i>Cedar Grove</i> —Charles Kemper, to January, 1847....	5 00
<i>KENTUCKY.</i> —By R. S. Finley—From 50 ministers of the Kentucky Conference.....	25 00
<i>OHIO.</i> — <i>Xenia</i> —Rev. Robert McCoy, to January, 1846.....	5 50
<i>INDIANA.</i> —By B. T. Kavanaugh— <i>Greensburg</i> —25 cents.....	25
<i>ILLINOIS.</i> — <i>Galena</i> —Dr. H. Newhall, and C. S. Hempstead, each \$1 50. By R. S. Finley—On account of Repository sent to the Clergy, \$18.....	21 00
<i>MISSOURI.</i> —By R. S. Finley—On account of Repository sent to the Clergy.....	58 00
<i>ST. DOMINGO.</i> — <i>Port au Prince</i> —John B. Hepburn.....	2 00
Total Repository.....	249 00
Total Contributions.....	17,618 68
Aggregate Amount...	\$17,867 68

ANNUAL MEETING.

THE next annual meeting of the American Colonization Society and Board of Directors, will be held in this city on the *third Tuesday* of January next, being the 20th day of the month, at 12 o'clock.

Auxiliary Societies who are entitled to a delegation by having contributed \$1,000 to the American Colonization Society during the year, are requested to appoint their delegates accordingly, and notify the Secretary of the fact.

Some important alterations of the constitution have been submitted to the various societies, and will be acted on at that meeting.

ANOTHER EXPEDITION FOR LIBERIA.

EMIGRANTS in Kentucky, Tennessee, and other southwestern states, will take notice that a vessel will sail from NEW ORLEANS in January next, for *Liberia*. Of the day of sailing due notice will be given.

Emigrants should be well supplied with clothing, cooking and farming utensils, matrasses and bedding, and other things necessary and convenient for persons going to settle in a new country, and obliged to provide for themselves.

COUNTED BY may 1851

NOTICE.

ALL REMITTANCES IN MONEY SHOULD BE MADE TO THE
REV. W. McLAIN, SECRETARY AND TREASURER A. C. S., WASHING-
TON CITY.

THAT FIFTEEN THOUSAND DOLLARS NOT YET MADE UP.

Will our friends bear it in mind? We now want ONLY TWO names at one thousand dollars each. It is an honor any one might well covet! We are anxious to have the subscriptions completed as soon as possible.

THOSE who wish to make bequests to the American Colonization Society, can best secure their object by using the following form, viz: "I give and bequeath the sum of — dollars to A. B., *in trust* for the American Colonization Society," &c.

The African Repository will hereafter be issued regularly on the 1st of every month, from this city, at \$1 50 per annum, payable in advance. The work is now owned by the American Colonization Society. The profits are wholly devoted to the cause of Colonization.

The African Repository is sent gratuitously—

To every Auxiliary Society which makes an annual remittance to the American Colonization Society.

To every clergyman who takes up annually a collection to aid the American Colonization Society.

To every person obtaining three new subscribers, and remitting the money.

To every individual who contributes annually ten dollars or more, to the funds of the American Colonization Society.

To every life-member of the American Colonization Society.

Clergymen who have taken collections in their churches the past year, but who have not received the Repository, will please forward their names and their residences.

Persons who wish to discontinue the Repository, are requested to give the town, county, and state, in which they reside.

Officers of Auxiliary Societies will please act as agents in receiving subscriptions to the Repository, and forward subscribers' names, and the money received, by mail, through their Postmaster.

Secretaries of Auxiliary Societies will please forward their names and residences, that they may be furnished with such documents and papers as may be on hand for distribution.

The payment of thirty dollars constitutes a person a life-member of the American Colonization Society, and entitles him to a certificate of life-membership.

Persons who have not received certificates of life-membership to which they are entitled, will please give information by mail.

Mr
P E